

EGERTON LEA CONSULTANCY

HOLCOMBE MOOR, BURY
Archaeological Assessment Report

August 2001

EGERTON LEA CONSULTANCY LIMITED

ARCHÆOLOGY • HISTORY • HERITAGE

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Our Ref: 0056/01/007/RN

Your Ref: -

13 August 2001

Norman Redhead
Assistant County Archaeologist
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Dear Norman,

HOLCOMBE MOOR REPORT

Please find enclosed the final report for the Holcombe Moor assessment. It incorporates information supplied by Nick Grimshaw on the Conservation Area and the results of the field validation survey undertaken at the beginning of August. Otherwise the report is much the same as the draft text sent out last April.

In addition to the report the archive consists of digital photographs of features referenced in the Gazetteer. This archive is probably best deposited with you on a CD, will this be okay? Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Newman
Co-principal

Holcombe Moor

Archaeological Assessment

Project No 0057



Checked by:

[Signature]

Passed by:

[Signature]

August 2001

Egerton Lea Consultancy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to the staffs of the Lancashire Record Office in Preston, Bury Archives, Manchester Archives at Manchester Central Reference Library, Bury Library and Lancaster University Library. We are grateful for the assistance given by Norman Redhead of the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record (Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit) and by Peter Iles of the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record (Lancashire County Council). In addition thanks are also owed to the University of Manchester Geological Unit for providing access to their aerial photographic collections and to David Cranstone for advice on the nature and appearance of wayside crosses.

The documentary research and report writing were carried out by Caron Newman and Dr Richard Newman of the Egerton Lea Consultancy. The field validation was undertaken by Richard Newman, who also wrote this report.

SUMMARY

A desk based survey of Holcombe Moor was carried out by the Egerton Lea Consultancy in April 2001. An attendant field inspection was delayed until August 2001, as a consequence of the foot and mouth outbreak. The work was undertaken on behalf of Bury Metro to inform conservation proposals.

A total of 43 sites were noted, of which 18 sites were already recorded on either the Greater Manchester or the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Records. The majority of sites were either quarries of relatively recent origin or post-medieval farmsteads. One previously unknown site of possible prehistoric origin was noted.

Evidence of historic routeways were recorded and it is suggested that these form the basis for historic trails which will encompass some of the more significant heritage assets present on Holcombe Moor. Recommendations for conservation measures for some of the other noted sites include the prevention of tipping within the quarries and the further investigation of specific sites.

CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Project background	1
1.2	Site location and geomorphology	1
1.3	Previous archaeological, palaeoenvironmental and historical work	2
2.	Methodology	4
2.1	Desk based study	4
2.2	Field inspection	4
3.	Results	5
3.1	Archaeological and historical context	5
3.2	Sites and Monuments Record	7
3.3	Sites of unknown date and origin	9
3.4	Prehistoric sites	9
3.5	Medieval boundaries and routeways	10
3.6	Farms, farming practices and enclosures	13
3.7	Extractive industries	15
3.8	Tourism and leisure	16
3.9	Military training area	17
3.10	Standing buildings in Holcombe	18
4.	Discussion	19
4.1	The nature of the archaeological record	19
4.2	Threats, improvement works and interpretation	20
	Bibliography	22
	Appendices	26
1	Project brief	26
2	Project design	30
3	Gazetteer	37

Figures

1. Location plan
2. The original Holcombe Moor military training area
3. Existing heritage designations
4. Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile first edition map of 1850
5. Ancient routeways across the Moor
6. Details of Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile map, 1912 edition, showing the rifle range on Holcombe Moor
7. Distribution of gazetteer sites

Plates

1. Possible cross shaft (site 43)
2. Possible cross shaft viewed from base
3. Coal pit (site 19)
4. Shooting butt (site 24)
5. Commemorative monument at the site of the Pilgrim's Cross
6. Building remains at Clarke's Tenement
7. Quarry, north of the Peel Monument
8. Quarry at Deep Clough

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1 In March 2001 Egerton Lea Consultancy were asked by the Metropolitan Borough of Bury to undertake an archaeological survey at Holcombe Moor, Bury, Greater Manchester, to inform the 'Peel Tower and Holcombe Moor Conservation Plan'. The work was carried out in accordance with a brief compiled by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU).
- 1.1.2 The desk based study consisted of a search of existing records held by the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record (LSMR), the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record (GMSMR), the Lancashire County Record Office (LRO), Bury Archives (BA), and Manchester Archives in Manchester Central Reference Library (MA). In addition the air photographic collection held by the University of Manchester's Geological Unit was consulted. Available secondary sources held in Lancaster University Library and Bury Library were also inspected. Both published and unpublished sources were examined. The desk-based survey was undertaken during April 2001.
- 1.1.3 As a consequence of the 2001 foot and mouth epidemic the field validation exercise, as specified in the brief, was postponed until August 2001. Summer vegetation growth, and restrictions on movement away from public rights of way, may have compromised the descriptive accuracy and value of the field inspection.
- 1.1.4 This report provides a description of the archaeological and historical context of the study area, a methodology statement, a brief integrated text description of the results, and an assessment of the archaeological potential within the study area. Site by site descriptions of features of archaeological interest found within the study area are given in an appended gazetteer.

1.2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The study area is situated on Holcombe Moor, centered on NGR **SD 775 178** (Fig 1).
- 1.2.2 The site is co-owned by the National Trust and Metropolitan Borough of Bury. Even so about a third of the site lies in the modern county of Lancashire, with the rest located in Bury, a borough of the former metropolitan county of Greater Manchester.
- 1.2.3 Holcombe Moor, which lies in the south of the Rossendale uplands, forms a distinctive block of upland to the north of Manchester on the fringe of the Greater Manchester conurbation. It is easily accessible to large urban populations close by and is thus a favourite spot for rambling.
- 1.2.4 The Moor is particularly noticeable because of the prominent and highly visible Peel Monument.
- 1.2.5 Holcombe Moor is flanked by the valley of the River Irwell to its east, in which is situated the town of Ramsbottom, nestling in the valley beneath the south-eastern flank of the Moor. The western side of the Moor is marked by the valley of the Holcombe Brook and its principal feeder stream, the Red

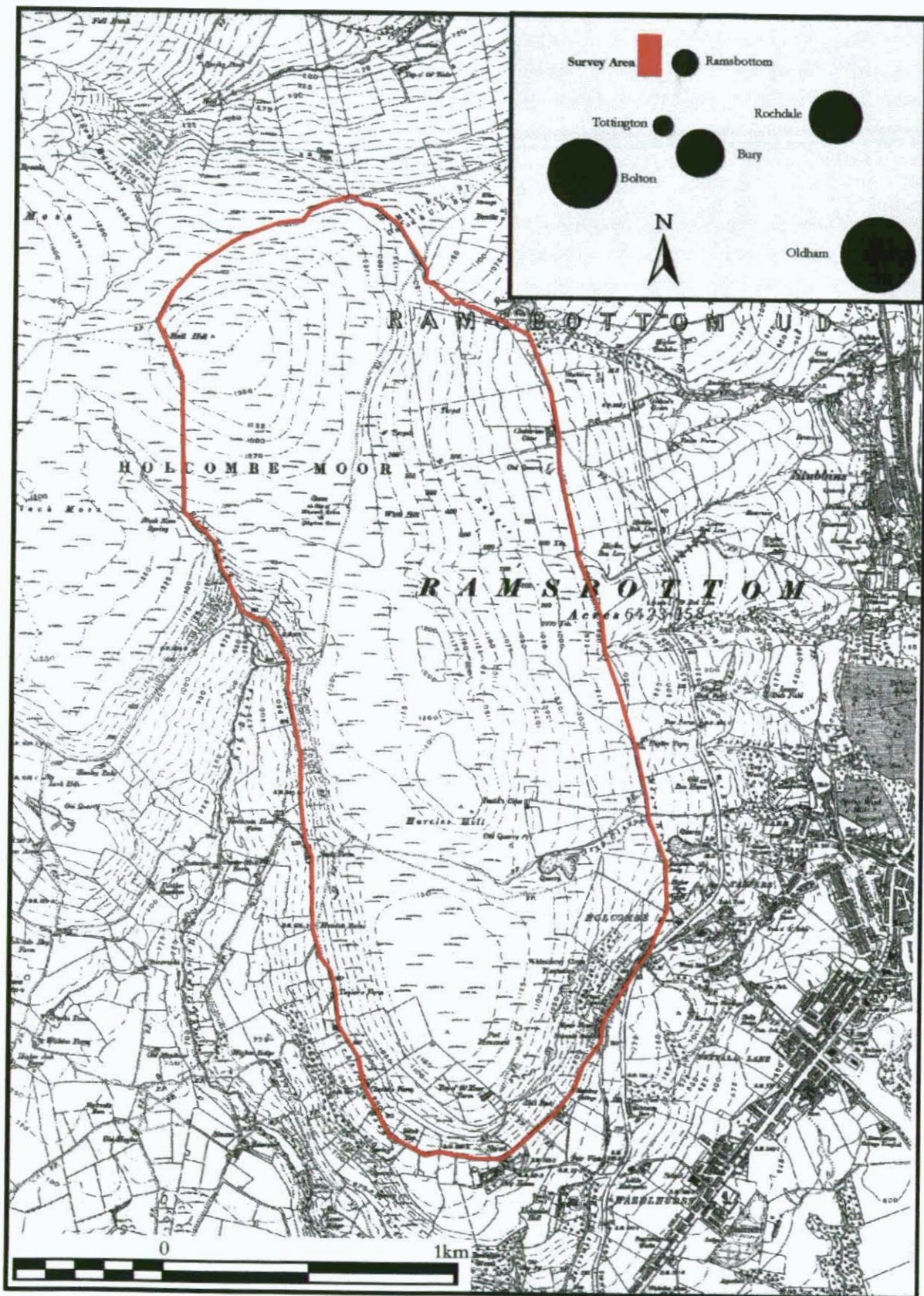


Figure 1: Location Plan

Brook. To the north the Moor is divided from the upland of Musbury Park by the Alden Brook. The highest point of the Moor is Bull Hill at 418m aOD and most of the survey area lies above the 250m contour. The study area is thus typical of the uplands of the Southern Pennines countryside character area (Countryside Commission 1998, 105). Its wilderness characteristics are similar to those of the Forest of Bowland and the Dark Peak, adjoining upland areas, but it has been more greatly developed as a result of industrialisation chiefly related to textile manufacture. Before the main impacts of industrialisation had been realised its charms were not always appreciated, as the vicar of Holcombe in 1815, William Holt, described it as a "cold barren country" (MA M39/18/2/17).

- 1.2.6 Geologically, Holcombe Moor is formed principally of carboniferous sandstones (Hall and Holland 1970). These are coarse-grained and usually referred to as gritstone or millstone grit (Countryside Commission 1998, 107; Geological Survey 1927). In places these gritstones are overlain by an outlier of the Lower Coal Measures, which outcrops as the Six Inch Mine seam at Bull Hill (LUAU 1995, 6). Elsewhere around the edges of the moorland massif, the Sand Rock Mine coal seam outcrops.
- 1.2.7 The solid geology is overlain by drift deposits of glacially-derived boulder clay. Since at least later prehistoric times thick peat deposits have accumulated in the higher plateau areas of the Rossendale uplands (Tallis and McGuire 1972). On Holcombe Moor the soils are primarily hill peats and peaty gleyed podzols (Hall and Holland 1970). High rainfall and the nature of the geology ensures the soils are base-deficient. They are also generally acidic and this in combination with altitude and past management history leads to a heather dominated vegetation cover, though where land has been enclosed, improved and maintained grassland dominates.
- 1.2.8 The geomorphology of Holcombe Moor has very much contributed to constraining and defining the nature of the likely archaeologically-represented activities within the study area. The area is of an upland character and for the most part above the usual elevation limit for permanent settlement. Soils are agriculturally-poor and relatively unproductive. The nature of the geology has encouraged mineral extraction activities, though the character of coal seams such as the Six Inch Mine are not conducive to large scale mining enterprises. Nevertheless, the Moor has long been a prominent feature within the landscape and has thus attracted attention over the millennia, particularly subsequent to the rapid growth in population in its flanking valleys both immediately prior to and during the Industrial Revolution.

1.3 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL, PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORICAL WORK

- 1.3.1 The study area consists of a block of upland which has received some archaeological examination in the past. In 1995 Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) undertook an archaeological assessment of the Holcombe Moor Training Centre, a military training area focused on the valley of the Holcombe Brook to the west of the present study area (see Fig 2). This assessment did extend into the present study area taking in Bull Hill and the Pilgrim's Cross.

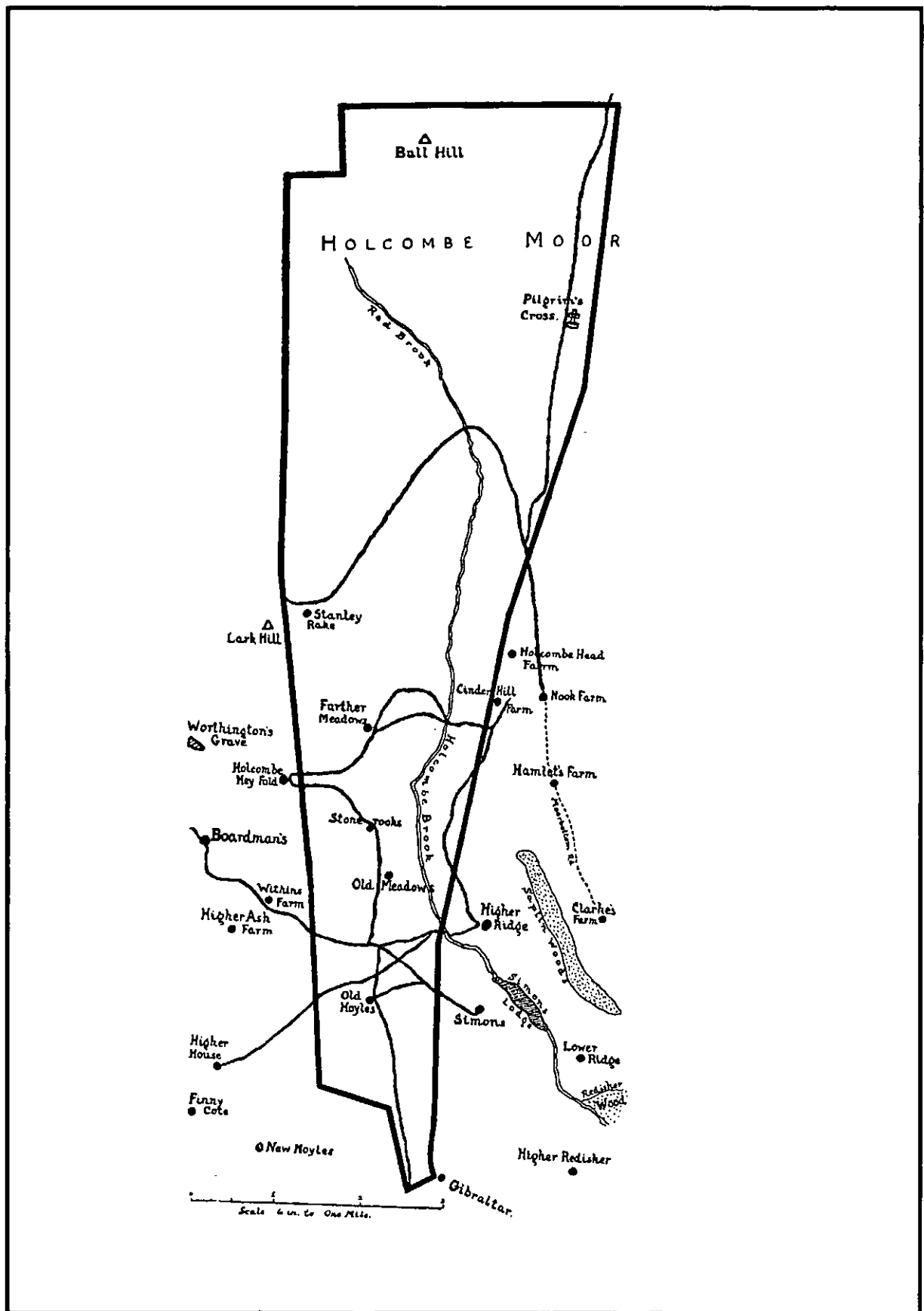


Figure 2: The original Holcombe Moor military training area, as depicted in the *Bury Times*, May 8th 1909.

- 1.3.2 The Bull Hill area has been the focus of archaeological interest since the 19th century when flint tools, debitage and a core were found near the summit in 1877, further finds were made in 1886 (Anon 1887). The material appears to have been exposed by the still active erosion of peats revealing mineralised soils and to have primarily consisted of Neolithic/Bronze Age material but with a possible Mesolithic component (LSMR 1074). Further examination by Bolton Museum in the 1950s revealed a few additional artefacts, but no new artefacts were revealed following a cursory examination by LUAU in 1995 (LUAU 1995, 44).
- 1.3.3 Other evidence of possible prehistoric activity on the Moor has been noted by the Bury Archaeological Group, who identified a probable Bronze Age cairn underlying the 20th century memorial to the Pilgrim's Cross (LUAU 1995, 45). This was reported by LUAU in 1995 but has not been recorded within the Lancashire SMR.
- 1.3.4 The most significant exploration of Holcombe Moor has been in the form of palaeoenvironmental research. A pollen core taken at Deep Clough provides an indicator of the local environment during prehistory and into the Middle Ages. It is suggested on the basis of this evidence and other local cores such as that taken from Wet Moss, that clearance of the woodland cover of the local uplands may have begun in the Neolithic and that certainly by the Bronze Age peat formation had begun.
- 1.3.5 Holcombe Moor did not attract much antiquarian interest. The first relatively detailed coverage of its history are contained in the Rev H Dowsett's accounts of Holcombe, *Notes on Holcombe* (1901) and *Holcombe Long Ago* (1902).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 DESK BASED STUDY

- 2.1.1 Existing archaeological information was obtained from the Greater Manchester and Lancashire SMRs. Manuscript maps and selected other documents, along with published antiquarian sources, were studied in the Lancashire Record Office, Manchester Archives (Manchester Central Reference Library) and at Bury Archives. Available maps and plans were restricted to the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 1st edition sheet of 1850 (Sheet LXXIX), Ordnance Survey 1:10560 coverage for 1894, 1912, 1930 and 1938 and the relevant 1:2500 quarter sheets for 1910 along the Lower Tottington and Higher Tottington tithe maps of 1838 and 1842 (LRO DRM 1/97; 1/98).
- 2.1.2 A list of the documents consulted is given at the end of this report. Few documents were specific to Holcombe Moor
- 2.1.3 Air photographs held by the Greater Manchester SMR and the University of Manchester Geological Unit were reviewed. These consisted of both vertical black and white photographs, including the 1946 RAF survey, and vertical colour digital photography taken for the 'Cities Revealed' aerial photographic series. As a consequence it was not considered necessary to acquire details of the air photographic coverage held by the National Monuments Record.

2.2 FIELD INSPECTION

- 2.2.1 The field inspection was not undertaken until the 1st August 2001, as a consequence of the restrictions on access imposed in response to the 2001 foot and mouth epidemic. Sites at distance from public rights of way were not visited and contact with the hefted sheep on the Moor was avoided. Footwear was disinfected before and after the visit. The purpose of the inspection was to validate sites recorded as part of the desk-based survey and not to engage in site discovery, although one new site was noted during the course of the field inspection.
- 2.2.2 All accessible sites had their grid references established using a Garmin GPS 12 hand held global positioning system. All sites were recorded within a tolerance of $\pm 5\text{m}$. Digital photographs were taken of all relevant sites. Some earthwork sites were not photographed because, high summer vegetation growth and low earthwork remains rendered the sites invisible when viewed through the camera.

3. RESULTS

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 The earliest known archaeological evidence in the vicinity relates to the Mesolithic period. The southern Pennines have some of the densest concentrations of evidence for Mesolithic activity in the country. How much of this is a consequence of opportunities presented by current environmental conditions, combined with previous campaigns of research, rather than a genuine reflection of past occupation is debatable (Barnes 1982, 25; Stonehouse 1988, 5). Locally, most Mesolithic material has been recovered from the uplands overlooking the Irwell (UMAU 1999,4), areas like Holcombe Moor.
- 3.1.2 There was some exploitation of the uplands during the Neolithic as may be revealed by the presence of grain within a buried soil under the Bronze Age Windhill cairn in Rossendale, and this suggests that there was at least some selective clearance of woodland at the time (UMAU 1999, 6). That peat formation commenced in these upland areas in the Bronze Age, also suggests that clearance may have begun in the Neolithic. Overall, however, there is a relative absence of Neolithic material from the uplands of the Lancashire Pennines, with lithic finds in particular concentrated in the lowlands (Middleton 1996, 40).
- 3.1.3 In the southern Pennines the extensive peat deposits represent an important potential resource for the study of past environments. The Deep Clough core indicated that woodland regenerated on the local uplands after the Roman period. The pollen record extracted from the peat clearly shows widespread woodland clearance from the Bronze Age (Howard-Davis 1996, 137). Throughout the Rossendale area burial cairns appear in the uplands along with clearance cairns indicating the use of areas for farming (Middleton 1996, 51-2). The importance of the upper Irwell valley is emphasised by the small stone circle at Cheetham Close on Turton Heights (UMAU 1999, 6).
- 3.1.4 It is considered likely that by the Iron Age areas like the Irwell valley were extensively settled (UMAU 1999, 8), though there is little direct evidence for this. Even so, the pollen record from Deep Clough and elsewhere in the vicinity, as at Fairsnape Fell (MacKay and Tallis 1994, 578), is suggestive of contemporary large-scale woodland clearance on the local uplands, possibly following a brief phase of regeneration (Nevell 1999, 19-20). The woodland clearance commenced in the Iron Age continued into the Roman period (Tallis and McGuire 1972). Iron Age deforestation was considerable for by the early Roman period tree pollen accounted for only 15% of the total dry land pollen recorded from the Deep Clough core (Nevell 1999, 22). The Iron Age settlement pattern was probably maintained through the Roman period. The Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester passed through the locality and its route later came to form part of the boundary between the medieval manors of Tottington and Bradshaw (UMAU 1999, 9).
- 3.1.5 The pollen evidence indicates that there was extensive woodland regeneration in the local uplands in the post-Roman period, perhaps returning woodland cover to Bronze Age levels (Tallis and McGuire 1972). This ties in closely

with the place-name evidence which suggests that woodland was prevalent in the area into the High Middle Ages. The frequent shaw suffixes in local place-names and other place-names and place-name elements such as hey, hurst, lee and shaw are all indicative of extensive woodland coverage in the earlier medieval period both on the upland and within the flanking valleys of Holcombe Moor. A particularly clear landscape suggesting high medieval woodland clearance is Chatterton. The seemingly Anglo-Saxon settlement for this township appears to have been confined to the east bank of the Irwell. On the west bank most of the place-names are indicative of woodland and medieval woodland clearance, Broadwood Edge, Eaves, Red Lees, Ox Hey and Stubbins. There was still considerable woodland within Holcombe township in the early 14th century, for wood from there was used to build the pale of Musbury Park (Tupling 1927, 15).

- 3.1.6 There is little physical evidence for Anglo-Saxon settlement in the vicinity and only one local manor, Radcliffe, was listed in the Bury area in Domesday Book. Place-names, however, are indicative of Anglo-Saxon settlement and there are a number of ton suffixes which are considered to relate to farmsteads (UMAU 1999, 10). Tottington has the *ingatun* suffix taken as an indicator of early Anglo-Saxon settlement (Mills 1976, 141; 1991, 291).
- 3.1.7 Tottington was the centre of a large manorial estate soon after the Norman Conquest. It formed part of the Lancashire holdings of the de Lacy family, descending with their Honor of Clitheroe. By at least the late 12th century the manor was held off the de Lacys by the Montbegon family and was a large fee which included Bury (Kenyon 1991, 143). Within the manor were a number of townships of which Holcombe was one. There are few references to Holcombe before the 17th century but in 1534 its farms and tenements were valued at 13s 4d (UMAU 1999, 12).
- 3.1.8 Tottington passed with the Honor of Clitheroe to Thomas of Lancaster in the early 14th century (Baines 1868, 515). As a consequence it later passed into Crown hands and became known as the Royal Manor of Tottington. In the 17th or 18th century for tithe purposes Tottington was divided into two, Tottington Higher End and Tottington Lower End (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 143). The study area was divided between the two, though Holcombe township appears to have been wholly within Tottington Lower. In 1883 Tottington Higher ceased to exist as it was divided between the growing industrial communities of Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall and Haslingden (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 144).
- 3.1.9 Much of the upland of Tottington had throughout the Middle Ages been regarded as private forests (chases), areas ostensibly set aside for the hunting interests of their lords. In reality they were at least dual purpose and the common grazing of animals, particularly cattle, is likely to have been a primary land-use. Once Tottington had passed into Crown hands, via the Duchy of Lancaster, its chases became part of the forests of Lancaster (Cantor 1982, 70). Disafforestation at the beginning of the 16th century, followed three decades later by the Dissolution of the monasteries and the dispersal into secular hands of the extensive monastic upland holdings, brought new landholders and investment into Tottington's uplands (see Shaw 1956). It is from the 16th century that the uplands or at least their margins are considered

to have become more intensively exploited (Coupe 1977). Population expansion on the upland margins seems likely to have continued through the 17th and 18th centuries fuelled by small-scale farmers improving their incomes through participation in domestic textile manufacture (Coupe 1977, 96-100). At this time the upland margins of cultivation may have been extended and the field pattern on the western flank of Holcombe Moor descending to Holcombe Brook is considered to have probably originated in the 17th century (GMAU 1992, 6).

- 3.1.10 Although coming under Forest Law the Tottington uplands, like all forests, were not necessarily wooded throughout the medieval period. Even so, the evidence of pollen, place-names and documentary references to taking wood, suggests that Holcombe Moor was at least partially wooded into the 14th century. When it had become largely clear of woodland is uncertain but this had been achieved by the 18th century and probably much earlier.
- 3.1.11 The importance of Holcombe township within Tottington is indicated by its development as an ecclesiastical and administrative centre within the lordship. With Edenfield it was one of two chapelries in Tottington prior to the transfer of the northern parts of the lordship into the Manor of Accrington and Hundred of Blackburn. In the later 17th century Holcombe became a centre of religious radicalism and a Presbyterian chapel was built there at a place known as Dundee in 1712 (Gray 1970, 28). In 1664 the then manorial lord, the Duke of Albermarle, gave directions for a Halmot Court to be established there and a building was erected to house it. By 1718 it was being used as a school as well as a courthouse. It was demolished in 1864 and the court removed to Ramsbottom (Dowsett 1901, 52). The site of the Halmot Court appears to have been marked as a school in 1850 (OS 1850) and was described as being within the churchyard in 1905 (MA L1/58/1/229).

3.2 SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

- 3.2.1 There are five entries recorded on the Lancashire SMR relating to the northern end of the study area and thirteen entries on the Greater Manchester SMR relating to the southern end of the study area.

GMSMR 163.1.0 - GM276	The Troughs. Four long irregular mounds, varying in height from 1m to 3m, now believed to be of natural origin.
GMSMR 9460.1.0 - GM10602	The Manor House. Early 19 th century, three storied, classical style house. Grade II Listed Building.
GMSMR 9470.1.0 - GM10613	Peel Monument. Mid 19 th century monument erected in tribute to Sir Robert Peel. Grade II Listed Building.
GMSMR 9478.1.0 – GM10626	Higher House. Early 18 th century, vernacular style structure. Grade II Listed Building.
GMSMR 10013.1.0 – GM11221	Old Gray Wall. Boundary marked and named on 1 st edition OS map.

GMSMR 10015.1.0 – GM11225	Hamlets Farm. Five ruinous stone buildings relating to a farm known to have been in existence by 1794.
GMSMR 10015.1.1 – GM11226	Ruinous rectangular stone structure. Probably a farm building in existence by 1850.
GMSMR 10015.2.0 – GM11227	Two buildings both in existence and referenced as Hamlet's cottages. Both appear to have been in existence by 1850.
GMSMR 10017.1.0 – GM11234	Nook Farm. Several rectangular ruinous structures relating to a farm known to have existed in 1794.
GMSMR 10045.1.0 – GM11266	Taylor's Farm. Two ruinous structures relating to a farm known to have existed in 1794.
GMSMR 10053.1.0 – GM11275	Clarke's tenement. Four ruinous stone structures relating to a farm shown as one building in 1797.
GMSMR 10067.1.0 – GM11290	Booth's Close. Now known as Harcles Hill Farm, this is a farm in existence by 1850 when it was depicted as one building.
GMSMR 10108.1.0 – GM11331	Top o' th' Moor Farm. Existing farm complex. Farm is known to date to at least 1850.
LSMR 1073	Pilgrim's Cross also known as the Whowell Cross. Former location of a medieval cross in existence by 1176. By late 19 th century only the socket base remained but it was destroyed in 1901 and a memorial stone put in its place a year later.
LSMR 1074	Scatter of flint tools and debitage of Mesolithic date found in 1886. Further finds made in the 1950s.
LSMR 8722	Sandstone quarry in existence by 1850.
LSMR 8731	Sandstone quarry in existence by 1850.
LSMR 8760	Coal pit in existence by 1850.
3.2.2	The area does not contain any scheduled monuments. It does not contain any registered historic parklands or registered battlefields. It does contain three grade II Listed Buildings as noted above, of which one is the Peel Monument (Fig 3). All three of these listed structures are contained within the Holcombe Conservation Area, which includes the south-eastern slopes of Holcombe

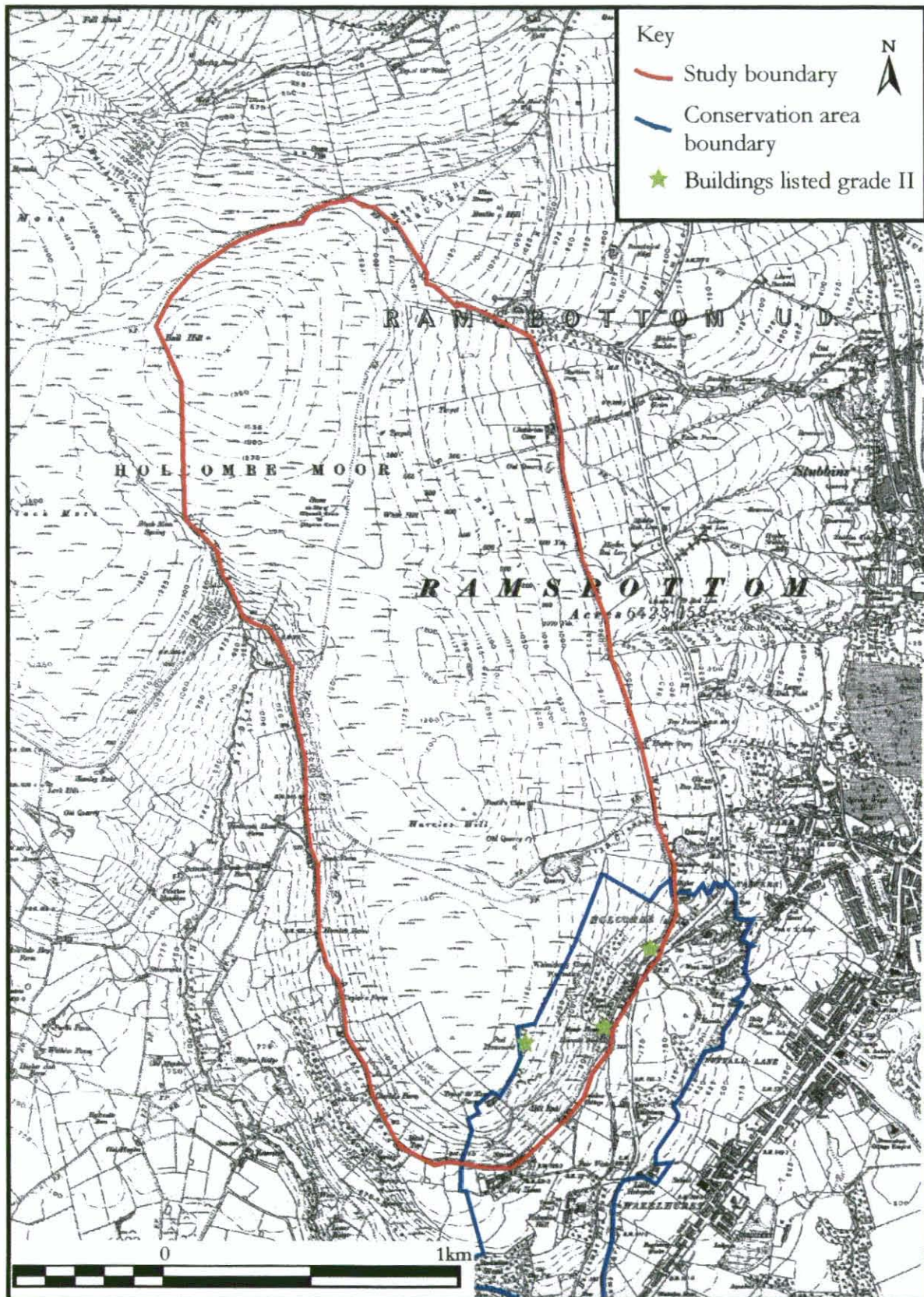


Figure 3: Existing heritage designations.

Moor and extends eastward outside the study area (information supplied by N Grimshaw).

- 3.2.3 The area is within a zone of upland defined within the Greater Manchester SMR as being as being an 'Area of Archaeological Sensitivity'. This is a non-statutory local designation. Its intention is to raise awareness of archaeological potential only and any responses to a potential threat to the archaeological resource in such an area should be those alluded to within PPGs 15 and 16.

3.3 SITES OF UNKNOWN DATE AND ORIGIN

- 3.3.1 To the south of Deep Clough and west of Moor Road, a circular feature was noted on a digital aerial photograph held by GMAU ('Cities Revealed' aerial photographic series). This site was validated in the field. It consists of a flat-bottomed, circular depression, about 25m in diameter, defined by a low, narrow bank, with a slight external ditch, at least to the south and east. Within the eastern section of the depression is a small mound (approximately 3m x 2m). The feature certainly seems to be man-made, and as it does not appear on 19th century Ordnance Survey maps it is likely to be of some antiquity and to have fallen into disuse well before the mid-19th century. Its position in the vicinity of the location of an 18th century farm known as Whirlwind Hill may indicate that it was related to it (see section 4.5.5). Its function is uncertain but it may be a silted-up pond.
- 3.3.2 To the south of Harcles Hill Farm is an indication of a platform in the corner of a small enclosure ('Cities Revealed' aerial photographic series). These may be the remains of a small field barn, but nothing appears there on any 19th century maps. Field inspection could not be undertaken as the site lay at some distance from any public right of way there were stock within the enclosure.
- 3.3.3 One new site was identified during the course of the field inspection. On the eastern flank of Bull Hill, a circular embanked enclosure was noted. It was approximately 5m in internal diameter and surrounded by a 0.5m high bank with a 1.5m spread. There was a gap in the encircling bank forming an entrance facing east. This was approximately 3m in width but at least half of the gap may have been formed by a denuded continuation of the enclosing bank. It is possible that this earthwork represents the remains of a circular hut of likely prehistoric date, but it appears to exist in isolation as no other features were noted in connection with it. Vegetation growth was locally luxuriant, however, and a proper inspection of the vicinity was not possible because of the restrictions on access imposed as a consequence of foot and mouth disease precautions. Alternatively, the earthwork may form the remains of a small pinfold, though as it is not marked on either the 1842 tithe map or the 1850 OS coverage, such a structure must have been decayed well before the mid-19th century.

3.4 PREHISTORIC SITES

- 3.4.1 Since the 1870s flint artefacts have been found at various times on the eastern side of Bull Hill close to the summit (see section 1.3.2). Although the assemblage may have a possible Mesolithic component, the majority of the artefacts are of a Neolithic or Bronze Age origin. The activity recorded on

Bull Hill may be related to a possible Bronze Age cairn at the site of the Pilgrim's cross (see section 1.3.3).

3.5 MEDIEVAL BOUNDARIES AND ROUTEWAYS

- 3.5.1 The only known site of medieval antiquity was the site of the Pilgrim's or Whowell Cross on White Hill. This cross is alluded to in a charter of 1176 when there is a reference to Pilgrim Cross Slack. It was referenced again in Roger de Montbegon's 1225 grant of land to Monk Bretton Priory in Pontefract, when one of the boundaries is called Pilgrim Cross Shaw (Dowsett 1901, 26, 35; LSMR 1073). The cross seems to have been erected on a probable Bronze Age cairn (LUAU 1995, 45).
- 3.5.2 The cross shaft had long gone by the later 19th century and it was reputed to have been wrenched from its socket and broken by two drunken quarrymen (Marshall 1888, 153). The socketed base certainly was a victim of vandalism as it was deliberately broken up in 1901 (Dowsett 1902; Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 144). Recorded in a photograph contained in the Rev Dowsett's *Notes on Holcombe* it was a rough hewn, sub-rectangular block with a central rectangular socket and similar in appearance to the surviving, usually scheduled, wayside cross bases elsewhere in south Lancashire. Considered to weigh about one imperial ton, it had by 1901 been graffitied with a well executed incised inscription. This read RP 1842 A 12 REMEMBER. The initials were considered by Dowsett, upon informed local authority, to be those of Reuben Pilkington and the inscription a memorial to the 'Plug Riots'. These were disturbances which occurred throughout Lancashire and Cheshire in the summer of 1842, in a protest against mechanisation (Rose 1957). Disturbances in the Ramsbottom vicinity occurred on the 12th August 1842, when protestors attacked a number of mills removing the plugs from the boilers of the steam engines (Dowsett 1901, 29-30).
- 3.5.3 During the field inspection a worked gritstone block was found adjacent to the Moor Road, at a point where the break in slope and a boundary wall may have prevented the rolling down slope of a masonry block from the site of the Pilgrim's Cross. Equally its situation next to the Moor Road may indicate that it was abandoned in transit along the road. This block was one of a number of worked gritstone blocks lying abandoned in the vicinity, most of which are probably former gate stoops. In this instance the block was approximately 1.5m in length by 0.5m at its base and unlike gate stoops tapered reducing in size along its length by about 50%. Moreover, there was a circular hole, about 10mm in diameter and 30mm deep placed centrally in the narrowest (top) end of the block, suggestive of a metal plug having been inserted to assist in fixing something on top of the block when in an upright position. Whilst there was no evidence of a stone tenon in the base, which seemed to have been broken, the masonry block did have some of the characteristics of a cross shaft. The visible stone pecking along its length, however, appeared consistent with a post-medieval origin and was not noticeably distinct from pecking on extant gate stoops in the vicinity. Not all faces were pecked which might suggest that not all faces were expected to be visible.
- 3.5.4 The Pilgrim's cross is most likely to have been a wayside cross marking the route to a focus of pilgrimage, as suggested by its name. It seems to have been

adjacent to the route from Bury and Manchester to Whalley Abbey (Taylor 1906). This route is now followed by the main north-south footpath across Holcombe Moor.

- 3.5.5 In 1902 a memorial stone was placed on the Moor to mark the site of the former cross (Dowsett 1902; Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 144). This was knocked over in 1935 but was re-erected by Ramsbottom Council at a cost of £16 raised by subscription (BA I62).
- 3.5.6 The medieval references to a shaw in association with the cross, indicate not only that much of the Moor may have been wooded in the earlier medieval period but assist in reconstructing some of the medieval land boundaries. In 1226 Roger de Montbegon, lord of the manor of Tottington, granted his forest called Holcombe to the monks of Monk Bretton (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 144). The granting of upland blocks to monasteries was a common occurrence in the medieval period and an important factor in creating land boundaries (Winchester 2000, 21). The boundaries of Montbegon's grant are described and include a number of shaw place-names. Shaw is usually a suffix element in a place-name and taken to be derived from Anglo-Saxon *sceaga* meaning a small wood or copse (Mills 1991, 291; Field 1972, 273). The shaw place-name element may also be derived on occasion from Anglo-Saxon *sceath* meaning boundary. Either way shaw place-names were common features of boundaries in upland areas, as for example Marshaw in the Forest of Bowland (LUAU 1997, 14). A number of features can be recognised. Harcles How is Harcles Hill. Pilgrim's Cross Shaw is likely to be the area crossed by the east-west aligned boundary which bisects the Moor and later divided Higher from Lower Tottington, and later still the post-1974 counties of Lancashire and Greater Manchester. Alden Head is a place-name for the northern part of Beetle Hill though in the past it may have been a name that was applied to the point where the feeder streams from Wet Moss form the Alden Brook. Longshaw Head is still a place on the western flank of Quarlton Heights. These positions indicate a remarkable coincidence with at least parts of the northern township boundary of Holcombe as can be reconstructed on later maps. It seems likely that it was this boundary that was being described in 1226. If the boundary coincides with the northern boundary of the township of Holcombe, and given the Anglian origin of the place-name elements, it is likely that the boundary described in the grant may be of pre-Conquest origin.
- 3.5.7 After 1226 the southern part of the study area was under monastic control and the northern part remained within the manor of Tottington, presumably forming part of the free chase and warren of Tottington as granted to Edward de Lacy in 1261 and confirmed on Henry de Lacy in 1294 (Baines 1868, 515). The manor of Tottington at this time extended to the north of Holcombe Moor to include the uplands of Tor Hill, Musbury Heights, Musden Head and Alden Moor. In 1304-05, however, Henry de Lacy, from within the chase of Tottington, enclosed a park at Musbury (Tupling 1927, 15). For the de Lacy families administrative convenience, Musbury and Cowpe were taken from the manor of Tottington and incorporated into the Honour of Clitheroe and chases of Blackburnshire, the later Forest of Rossendale (Tupling 1927, 15; Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 143). As a consequence they were also transferred out of the hundred of Salford into the hundred of Blackburn. By 1580, on a map

copied by Tupling, Musbury Park was recorded as within the manor of Accrington. This map appears to depict the boundary described in 4.3.5 above, as a right angled boundary running from the park in the north. To the north and east of the boundary, and including land within the northern part of the study area, the lands were held in severalty by the manor of Tottington. To the west the land is described as the common of Tottington. The main boundaries shown on the 1580 map can easily be fitted on to the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1850), allowing the pale of Musbury Park to be reconstructed along with other boundaries.

- 3.5.8 The division that today separates the study area into a northern portion contained within the post-1974 county of Lancashire, and a southern portion within the former metropolitan county of Greater Manchester, appears to have considerable antiquity (Fig 4). It may be pre-Conquest in origin, it certainly appears to be referred to in 1226 and it is recorded as a mappable feature in 1580. Whether or not it was physically delineated on the ground is not known, such boundaries often remained open (Winchester 2000, 21), and in 1850 the boundary was marked as undefined (OS 1850).
- 3.5.9 Along with boundaries the 1580 map marks the route of the highway from Bolton to Haslingden. Again this can be followed on later mapping. By the mid 19th century the route appears to initially follow Stake Lane before forming a footpath which ran approximately north-east/south-west, travelling to the north of Bull Hill and Black Moss (Fig 5).
- 3.5.10 No other roads are marked on the 1580 map, but it seems clear that at least two other routes within the study are ancient roads. One likely ancient routeway is Chapel Gate which is marked on the 1st edition OS map (Fig 4). This was a west-east route across the Moor which led specifically from Holcombe Head, Nook and Hamlet's Tenement to the medieval chapel at Holcombe. All these farms are most likely to be of post-medieval date, but the route would still have been useful for any medieval settlement within the valley of the Holcombe Brook. The likely medieval origin of this route is indicated by the use of the term gate as derived from *gata*, the Old Norse for a road (Fig 4).
- 3.5.11 The Moor road, which marks the eastern side of the study area, was also a highway of some antiquity. Leading from the direction of Bury towards Haslingden, it probably replaced the Pilgrim route over the Moor as the main north-south route in the post-medieval period (Fig 5). In 1810 the Moor road was designated to be discontinued as a public highway under the Act of Parliament which established the Helmshore turnpike road (BA I39.21). In 1850 the road was recorded as Holcombe Old Highway (OS 1850). Despite being discontinued in the early 19th century, property owners adjacent to it continued to petition the local authority to maintain it as a public highway up to the 1960s. Although Ramsbottom Urban District Council did maintain the route up to the Moor Gate, from the early 20th century, following the requisition of much of the Moor for military training, the remainder of the road was managed by a trust (BA I39.21). This gradually became moribund and last undertook repair work on the road in 1934. The administration of the trust's business passed to the National Trust in 1952 (BA I39.21).

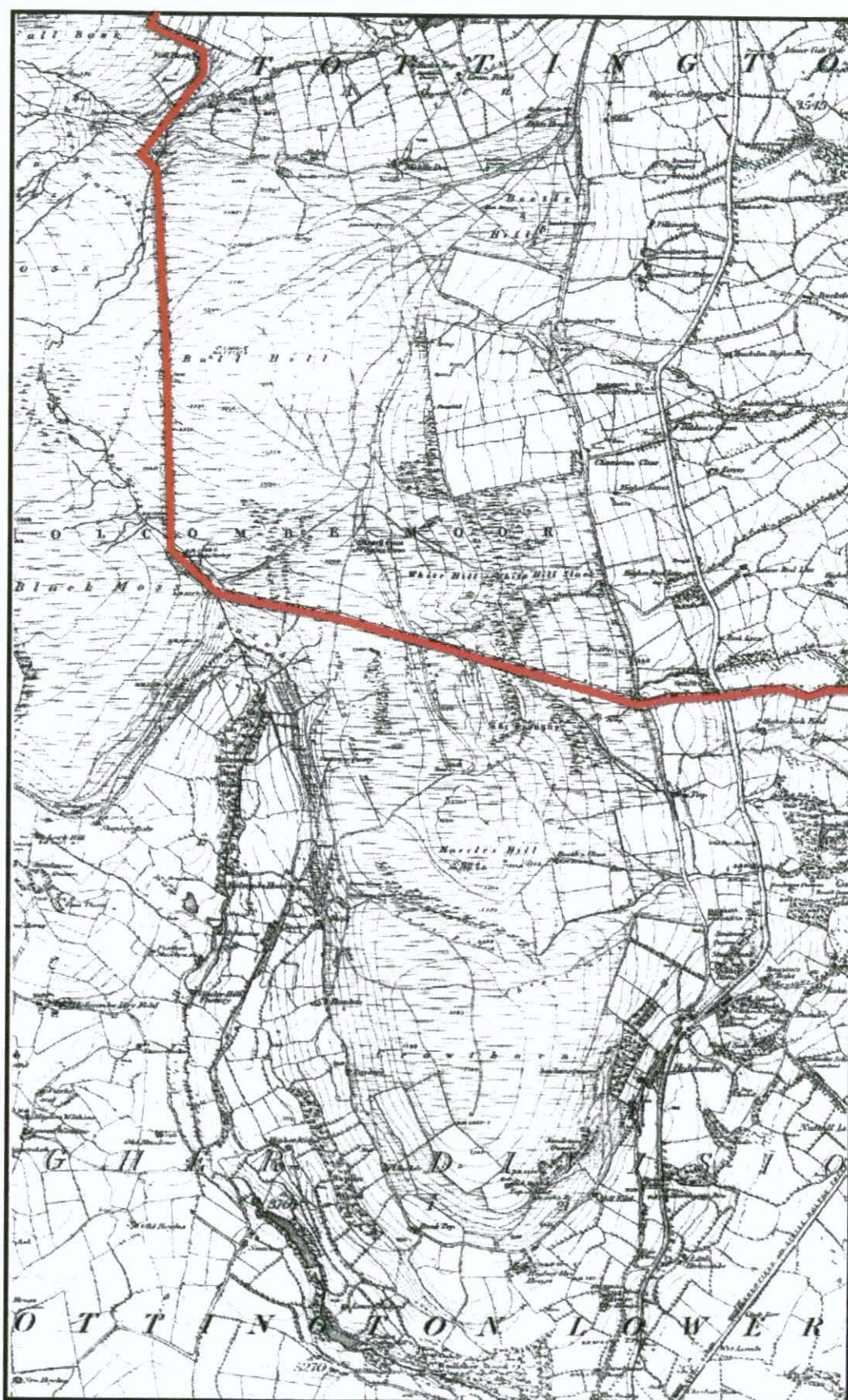


Figure 4: Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile first edition map of 1850. The red line denotes the current local authority boundary, but follows the line of the medieval manorial and township boundaries.

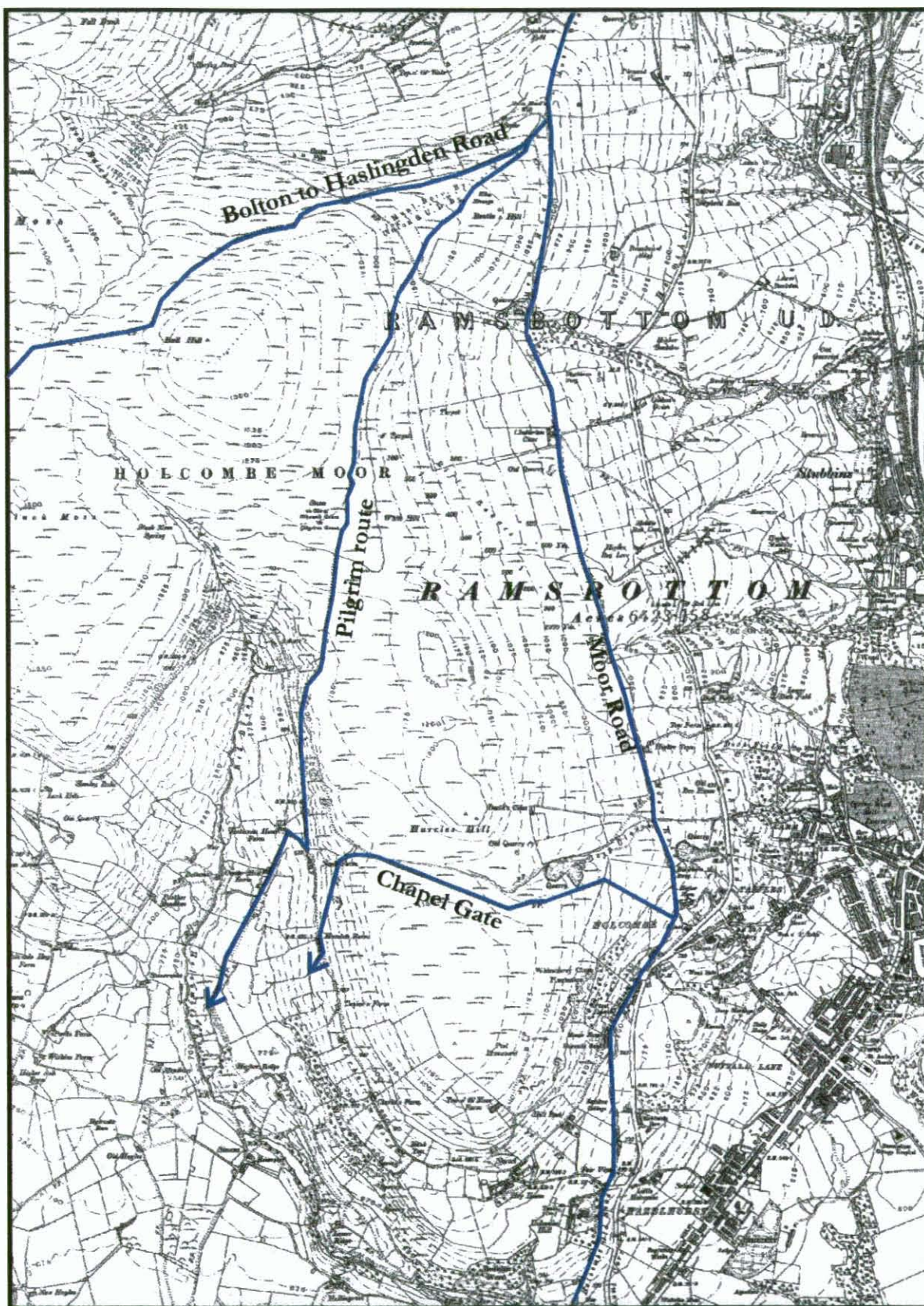


Figure 5: Ancient routeways across the Moor.

3.6 FARMS, FARMING PRACTICES AND ENCLOSURES

- 3.6.1 Holcombe Moor has been an area of upland grazing with common rights extending over it since the Middle Ages. In the late 1980s there were still seventeen local farmers with commoner's rights to graze it (BA RHCMA 294). The copyholders of the Manor of Tottington had been attempting to encroach on the unenclosed lands of the manor since at least the 16th century. A Commission was set up by James I to investigate the encroachments on the Crown held unenclosed uplands. In 1618 a decree was issued referring to the unlawful enclosure of land in Tottington (LUAU 1995, 14; Dowsett 1902). In 1621 the Crown pursued the Earl of Derby, then lord of the manor, and his tenants for making enclosures upon the commons, though the issue seems to have been related to the Crown's lack of rent from such enclosures rather than the making of the enclosures themselves (LRO DDX/118/130/6). In 1622 the commons of Tottington were measured and the copyholder's enclosures were referenced as to when they were admitted at the manorial court. Whilst there are references to enclosures at Holcombe, for the most part there are insufficient details relating to recognisable landscape features to be able to identify the locations of the recorded enclosures, however there is a reference to the tenement of Nook (LRO DDX/118/130/6).
- 3.6.2 Nook was one of a series of farms shown on 19th century maps as built against the head dyke wall which marked the division between the enclosed and unenclosed lands. This suggests that the field pattern mapped in the 19th century on the west flank of Holcombe Moor was already established by 1622. It is possible that the other farms abutting the head dyke wall were also established by then, their names certainly indicate a post-medieval origin but only an establishment by the later 18th century can be defined for most of them.
- 3.6.3 The dispute between the Crown and the copyholders over enclosure at Holcombe was not resolved until 1681 when the tenants paid the Crown £1,420 3s 4d and agreed increased annual rents for the enclosed and improved lands (Dowsett 1902). The enclosure and improvement of land along the west flank of Holcombe Moor appears to have been a case where the manorial lord and his tenants conspired to encroach the open, commonable land of the Manor but in doing so infringed the rights of the Crown. As ever with the Stuart monarchy, however, provided they received their 'cut' of any financial gain they were prepared to ratify and legalise such infringements.
- 3.6.4 All the farms within the study area were probably creations of the post-medieval period. In 1794 the township of Tottington Lower End was surveyed. Undertaken by Robert Smith, John Kay and John Brandwood the survey was produced in printed form, presumably for dissemination to all the tenants (BA RHCMA 0105). All the farms shown along the western edge of Holcomb Moor were listed. Bank Top was valued at £10.00, Clerk's Tenement £9.10s, Taylor's Tenement £10.10s, Hamlet's Tenement £18.00 and Nook £15.5s. The latter was described as consisting of the farm with two sub let cottages.
- 3.6.5 In addition to the above farms, one other existing property possibly within the study area was mentioned, Plant's Tenement at Holcombe. This may be equated with the property named Plant House in 1908 (OS 1910), but is more

likely to relate to Plant's Farm on the opposite side of the road and outside the study area. Another farm mentioned, but no longer in existence, was Whirlwind Hall which was situated between the farms of Higher Barn and Top. Both of these farms were recorded in 1794 but lay to the immediate east of the study area boundary along Moor Road (BA RHCMA 0105). Whirlwind Hall was recorded as being adjacent to Deep Clough. It was altered into two cottages in the later 18th century and seems to have belonged to the Rev John Smith who had let it to Lawrence Buckley by 1779. There are entries for it in relation to the payment of window tax in 1780-1 and in the church registers for 1783 (Dowsett 1902, 64). It had been demolished before 1838 (LRO DRM 1/98) and no trace of it remained in 1902 (Dowsett 1902, 64). No trace of likely building remains were noted in the vicinity of Deep Clough during the field inspection. Neither Top o' th' Moor or Booth's Close, the two Tottington Lower End farms marked on the Moor itself in 1850 (OS 1850) and shown on the tithe map of 1838 (LRO DRM 1/98), are identifiable in the 1794 survey.

- 3.6.6 Booth's Close is the farm now known as Harcles Hill Farm. Whilst there are no references to Booth's Close in 1794 it is possible that the enclosures the farm occupied are much older. Listed as unnamed meadows in the 1838 tithe apportionment it is not possible to equate the enclosures with named lands in the 1794 survey. Their situation below Harcles Hill, however, is interesting. In 1226 in Montbegon's grant to the monks of Monk Bretton three acres of meadow were granted to them for pasture beneath Harcles How (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 145). This certainly suggests that enclosures existed on Holcombe Moor during the medieval period and it is possible given the coincidence of situation that the Booth's Close' enclosures originated as a grant to the monks. Even allowing for the difference in customary acreages between the 13th and 19th centuries it is clear that Booth's Close as mapped in 1838 may have been up to three times the size of the area granted to the monks. Nevertheless, such a grant may have been the kernel of the later enclosures. The farm-name is of little use for indicating the origin's of the enclosures. Whilst the name 'booth' is indicative of a temporary shelter in the southern Pennines area, a compatible place-name element for an isolated medieval enclosure, the Booth family were major landholders in the area in the 18th and 19th centuries giving their name to a number of places (BA RHCMA 0105).
- 3.6.7 To the north-east of Booth's Close lies a further enclosure. Square-shaped and abutting the Moor road, it was referred to in the tithe apportionment of 1838 as a pasture called New Coppice (LRO DRM 1/98). This field name suggests that the enclosure originated as a woodland close to exclude browsers and encourage coppice regrowth, as such the enclosure may be of medieval origin. Equally it could have originated as a small post-medieval plantation. Either way its land use had changed by the mid 19th century, for it is never shown as woodland on any 19th century maps. Rev Dowsett wondered whether this enclosure could have been the pasture granted to Monk Bretton in the Montbegon bequest (MA L1/58/1/227).
- 3.6.8 Top o' th' Moor Farm, which is located within a group of enclosures at the southern end of the Moor, was not mentioned in the survey of 1794 and its origins may well post-date that survey. In 1838 and 1850 the same enclosures are shown (LRO DRM 1/98, OS 1850). Of the two northernmost, the western

field was called New Close in 1838 and the eastern one Higher Linkmore which was still shown as unimproved moorland in 1850. The evidence thus strongly indicates that Top o' th' Moor farm was in 1838 a new farm recently reclaimed from moorland. The boundary which now links Top o' th' Moor's enclosures with those extending up the Moor from Holcombe is of 20th century origin. To the south of Top o' th' Moor enclosures is an area of ridge and furrow within the rough ground sloping down to Moorbottom Road (GMAU Cities revealed aerial photographic series). This is narrow straight rig very similar to that noted throughout the Holcombe Brook valley in LUAU's 1995 survey. It probably relates to 19th century steam ploughing undertaken to improve drainage.

- 3.6.9 At the northern end of the study area, within Tottington Higher End, a further group of enclosures are linked to a farm called Chatterton Close which is situated in the south-east corner of the fields adjacent to the Moor road. It was in existence in 1842 when a formal garden existed on its northern side (LRO DRM 1/97). By 1850 the garden had apparently been removed, though a sheepfold on the western edge of the enclosures was still present (OS 1850). The former location of the garden is now a pasture field, and no remains, suggestive of the garden, were noted from a cursory visual inspection of the field undertaken from the adjacent footpath. The field names are uninformative and all that can be said about its origins is that it is likely to be a post-medieval enclosure, perhaps like Top o' th' Moor of relatively recent origin in 1842. Its fields are regular and straight sided, with all the characteristics of having been planned out by a surveyor. They contrast sharply with the fields off the Moor between Moor Road and the Irwell, which are small, irregular and often with curving edges. These fields are associated with numerous woodland names (see 4.1.5) and have the characteristics of medieval fields reclaimed from woodland. They represent medieval colonisation of marginal lands within the township of Chatterton, whereas Chatterton Close represents the last post-medieval phase in this process.

3.7 EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

- 3.7.1 Quarries and mines were along with enclosures part of the general issue of encroachment which vexed the Crown in the 16th and 17th centuries. A commission of inquiry of the reign of Edward VI into the gaining of rents from Lancashire's forest lands, included within it the slate mines and delfs within the commons and wastes of Tottington (LRO DDX/118/130/1). The dispute with the Earl of Derby and his copyholders in 1618-21 included the Crown's contention that they had been unlawfully digging and removing coal, slates, stones and peats from Tottington's commons (LRO DDX/118/130/6). As with the enclosures the Crown came to an agreement with the Manor of Tottington and its copyholders but there was continued agitation over quarrying and mining within the commons of the Honor of Clitheroe, including Tottington, into the 19th century.
- 3.7.2 In 1753 the customary tenants of the Honor of Clitheroe took a case to Chancery against what appear to be commercial quarry operators. They stated that as copyholders they had the right to dig slate, flags and wallstones within their own copyhold lands as part of their customary estovers. These rights were considered to have been infringed by a group of people using "diverse

pretences and claims to dig, work and get slates, flags and wallstones". These people "pretended they had the right to do either as copyholders or commoners... ..or under the pretext of some other title which they refuse to discover" (LRO DDX/118/130/2). In 1825 a similar situation arose when the then manorial lord, the Duke of Buccleugh, leased out the right to quarry stone and thereby infringed the copyholder's traditional rights (LRO DDX/118/130/6). These episodes and references do not assist in locating or dating mines and quarries on Holcombe Moor, although they do indicate that mining, quarrying and turbary had a long and contentious history within the manor of Tottington.

- 3.7.3 No mines or quarries are shown on the tithe maps of 1838 and 1842, though this may have been a consequence of the surveyor's choice rather than an absence of activity (LRO DRM 1/97; DRM 1/98). Nine sandstone quarries and one coal pit are shown on the 1st edition OS map (OS 1850; Fig 4). The two most significant quarries in 1850 were to the north of Top o' th' Moor Farm and on the slope above Holcombe. The former appears to have been abandoned by 1908, the latter seems to have been out of use in 1908 but to have been active again by 1930 (OS 1850; 1910; 1930). All other quarries marked in 1850 were not working in 1912 (OS 1850; 1912). By 1912 additional quarries were marked on the Moor between Nook and Hamlets, and at the head of Deep Clough. Moreover, an old quarry was marked to the west of Booth Close with another to the south of Chatterton Close, this latter quarry was marked as a feature in 1895 and may have been active then (OS 1895; 1912; Fig 1).
- 3.7.4 Two further areas of quarrying can be defined on Holcombe Moor though neither is shown as such on the 1850 OS map. To the immediate north of the Peel Monument a depression is marked on the OS maps which post-dates the 1st edition of 1850. Aerial photographs clearly reveal this to have been a quarry. Field inspection showed that though small in size, the quarry forms quite a deep pit.
- 3.7.5 Its likely date and situation strongly suggest that it was used to supply stone for the construction of the Peel Monument in 1852. Its capacity, judging from surviving remains would have been sufficient to supply a good deal, though not all, the stone necessary in the monument's construction. Another area of quarrying, also noted on aerial photographs, consists of possible quarries along the western edge of the north-western enclosure of Chatterton Close and a quarry immediately to the west of this enclosure on the unenclosed Moor (UMGU_RAF 3G/TUD/UK). The former at least may have been the quarries for the stone used to build the dry-stone walled enclosures of Chatterton Close.
- 3.7.6 Nothing is known about the coal pit marked in 1850, other than it appears to have gone out of existence well before 1895 (OS 1850; 1895). Field inspection revealed it to have the surface characteristics of a bell pit; a circular mound of spoil around the remains of a partially backfilled shaft. It was clearly a small-scale enterprise of limited duration.

3.8 TOURISM AND LEISURE

- 3.8.1 Already by the early 19th century Manchester and its satellite towns were expanding rapidly, whilst the Forest of Rossendale was described as having

“lately become a very populous, wealthy and important neighbourhood and is daily increasing in population, trade and commerce” (LRO DDX/118/130/6). Situated in the heart of these areas of population growth Holcombe Moor was by the early 19th century a magnet for those seeking to escape the crowded industrial centres and ‘take the air’ (BA I41.9). The completion of the Peel Monument in 1852 acted as a further attraction to visitors, though men and women were originally not allowed to visit the monument’s platform at the same time (Anon, 1909, 53). The Monument was described as frequently visited by tourists in the mid 19th century (Barton 1874, 222).

- 3.8.2 People were not the only ones to take exercise on the Moor. On the 1st edition OS map a track forming a circuit is marked extending north along the ridge from Harcles Hill to White Hill. It has the appearance of a racecourse and is called the “Breathing Ground”. This was described by Dowsett as a place where horses were exercised. In 1844 a Mr Thornton, a vet from Bury, kept thoroughbreds in a stables on Harcles Hill in order to exercise them on the Breathing Ground (Dowsett 1901, 86). These stables were presumably at Booth’s Close.
- 3.8.3 A further feature of interest depicted on 19th and 20th century OS maps is a rifle range to the south of Chatterton Close (Fig 6). This was first marked on the OS map of 1894 as a rifle range with a series of targets running in a diagonal between the Red Lees Brook and a little north of the south-west corner of Chatterton Close). By 1930 the rifle range is shown as disused but still in tact with ‘old targets’ marked on the map. The range appears to have belonged to a civilian gun club. A possible remnant feature of this range may be a rectangular structure to the west of Chatterton Close. This consists of a stone-walled rectangular sunken structure with a bank on the south-eastern side. Access to the floor of the structure was via a short flight of stone steps. The feature is marked on Ordnance Survey 1912 edition 1:10,560 map as “targets” (Fig 6).

3.9 THE MILITARY TRAINING AREA

- 3.9.1 The recreational use of the Moor was compromised in the early 20th century by the acquisition of part of it for training by the military. The first recorded military use of Holcombe Moor dates to the Crimean War when the Connaught Rangers were encamped on Harcles Hill (Dowsett 1901, 49). In 1892 a commission of inquiry was held into the establishment by the Army of a rifle range in the Holcombe Brook valley near Higher Ash and Withens farms (BA I41.9). An agreement was finally reached in 1910, despite considerable local opposition. The range was built in 1911 being owned and operated by the Territorial Force, East Lancashire Association (BA I41.9). The range was situated in the valley but its impact zone was considered to encompass Bull Hill and the Pilgrim’s Cross (map reprinted from the *Bury Times* 8th May 1909; Fig 2).
- 3.9.2 In 1948 the training area was extended, again in defiance of local opposition, and use intensified to include grenades (BA I41.9). By the 1980s it was regarded as an Intermediate Training Area and various forms of training with live ammunition were carried out (BA RHCMA 294). Further proposals for

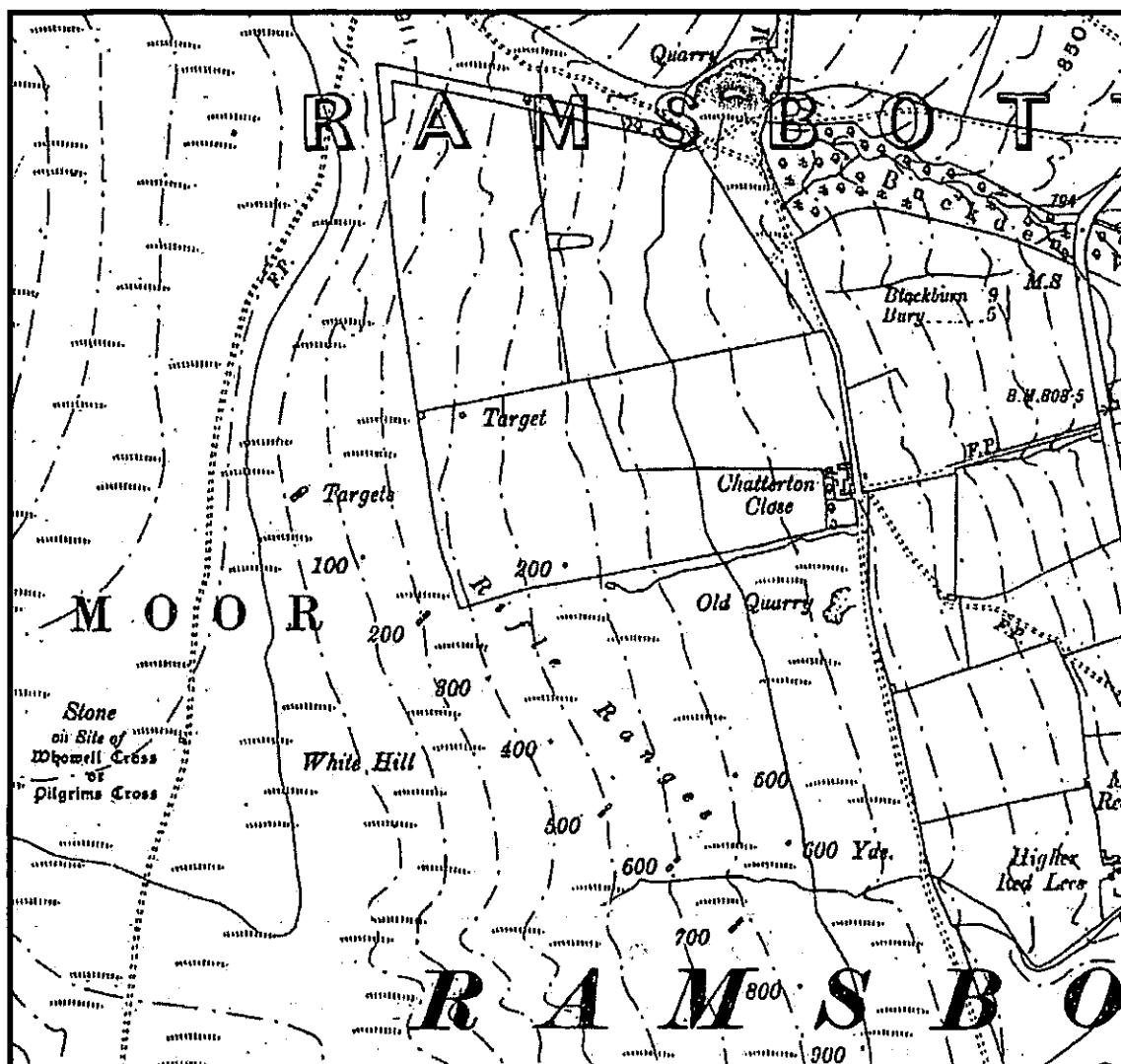


Figure 6: Details of Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile map, 1912 edition, showing the rifle range on Holcombe Moor

extension were made in the late 1980s and the training area remained a contentious issue into the 1990s.

- 3.9.3 The training area was the cause of considerable landscape change within the Holcombe Brook valley and along the western edge of the Moor (LUAU 1995). It led to the abandonment of many of the farms in the vicinity. Those such as Nook and Clarke's Tenement which appear as ruins today were still roofed structures in 1946 before the extension of the training area. (UMGU RAF 3G/TUD/UK 18Y Part IV, 1946).

3.10 STANDING BUILDINGS IN HOLCOMBE

- 3.10.1 Two buildings at Holcombe and within the study area are listed grade II. One of these is the Manor House. The building is described as of early 19th century date in the Greater Manchester SMR. An old postcard in Bury Archives showing the Manor House in the early 20th century reveals a house of early to mid-19th century date. In spite of its name no earlier antecedents are known for it. The Rev Dowsett commented on it in 1905 stating that it was "a pretentious name". He dismissed any associations it might have with a manorial site. "There is a modern house in Holcombe village built by a manufacturer some years ago and it is now called Manor House. But it has nothing to do with the manor nor does it stand upon any site showing antiquity" (MA L1/58/1/228).
- 3.10.2 The other listed building in Holcombe and within the study area is Higher House, an early 18th century vernacular structure. Unlisted, but of historical interest and also within the study area, is Plant House. Today this is a classical-style house of early to mid-19th, similar in appearance and broadly contemporary with neighbouring Manor House. It may occupy part of the property known as Plant's Tenement in 1794 (see section 4.5.5) which probably dated in origin to at least the 17th century.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 THE NATURE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD (Fig 7)

- 4.1.1 Previous research on the significance of the archaeological resource of Holcombe Moor concluded that its archaeological importance could not be assessed “by evaluating and then aggregating each single archaeological component in the landscape” (Newman 1998, 96). Its archaeological value was considered to be more than the sum of its parts and consequently the removal or damage of any of its components would “reduce its overall merit” (LUAU 1995, 19). These conclusions are broadly upheld for this current survey. The previous study, however, was undertaken in circumstances where there was a possibility of heritage assets being removed or denuded. It also surveyed an area which concentrated on the valley of the Holcombe Brook and provided evidence of a primarily post-medieval landscape within which there was considerable articulation and integration between the various archaeological elements. In contrast the Holcomb Moor plateau is a palimpsest created by millennia of activity, within which some archaeological features can be defined as having greater significance and greater sensitivity. The threats to any off the heritage assets are limited, however, and can be negated by sensitive management.
- 4.1.2 In total, excluding the Peel Monument, 43 sites of archaeological interest and potential were recorded in the study area (Fig 7; appendix 3). Within appendix 3 sites are graded of no archaeological significance, of limited significance, of local significance, of regional significance and of national significance. Sites of no significance equate to sites previously recorded as of archaeological significance but which either no longer exist or were mistakenly recorded as archaeological in nature. Sites of limited significance are sites which are archaeological but have little potential either as research, educational or recreational resources. Sites of local significance will have importance in relation to one or more of these resources but would not normally be considered sufficiently significant to be accorded some form of designation. Sites of regional significance are on a par with buildings listed grade II and should wherever possible be preserved. Sites of national significance are of a significance high enough to merit a national designation as either a grade I or II* listed structure or a scheduled monument.
- 4.1.3 There are a number of sites of limited archaeological interest within the study area, these include wells and the smaller and/or less well preserved extraction pits, the latter in particular are not fragile and may be of significance for other conservation concerns other than cultural heritage. Sites of local significance include the larger and better preserved quarries and the standing farmsteads of 18th or early 19th century origin. Sites of regional significance include the prehistoric site on Bull Hill, the site of the Pilgrim’s Cross and putative barrow and the ruined farmsteads of probable early 17th century origin along the south-west flank of the Moor. The significance of the latter is in part attributable to their group value. These ruined farms are a valuable resource for future research. The enclosures on the Moor may in some instances have medieval antecedents but for the most part they are likely to post-date the 18th

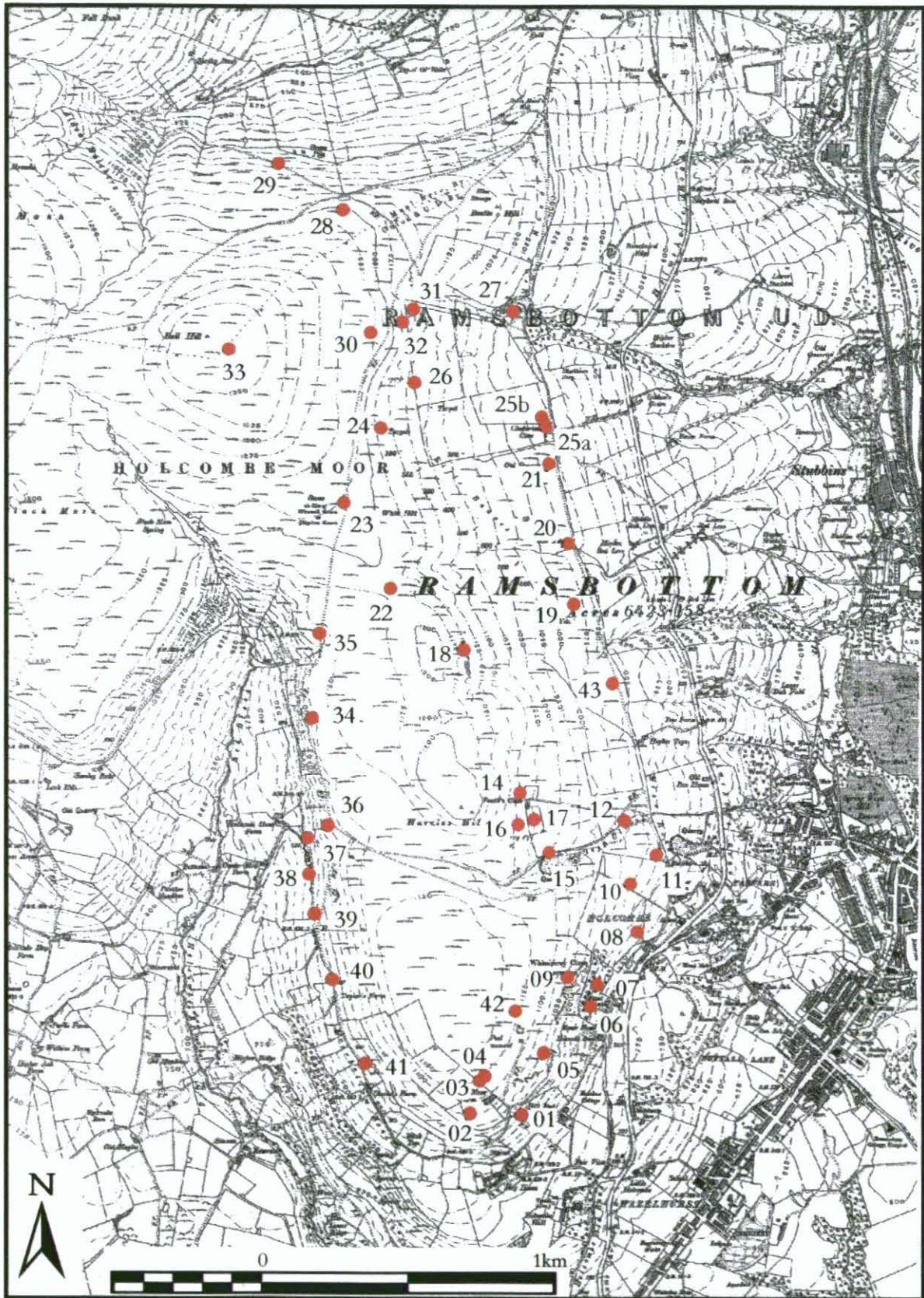


Figure 7: Distribution of gazetteer sites

century. Historically the most interesting features may be the preserved routeways which are related to highways of considerable antiquity, though their strictly archaeological value is limited. The landscape preserves a number of other features of historical interest such as the Breathing Ground.

- 4.1.4 Of greatest archaeological interest, however, are the prehistoric flint knapping site on Bull Hill and the putative prehistoric barrow beneath the Pilgrim's Cross memorial. Both are relatively fragile sites and will require active management to avoid further deterioration, particularly in relation to the Pilgrim's Cross site through visitor-induced erosion. The undated circular earthwork of uncertain function at SD 7726 1879, may also on further investigation prove to have considerable archaeological interest and potential; at the very least an accurate earthwork survey should be undertaken. The peat resource in general is an important asset for the study of past landscapes and societies.
- 4.1.5 Overall, however, it is the landscape itself which forms the greatest heritage asset. It is a landscape that is "both typical and distinctive of the west Pennine uplands" and is of regional significance as an historic landscape (Newman 1998, 96-7).

4.2 THREATS, IMPROVEMENT WORKS AND INTERPRETATION

- 4.2.1 There are few obvious examples of heritage assets being affected by erosion. For the most part access routes do not cross through archaeological sites. At Clarke's Tenement where the farmstead is bisected by a public right of way, the route is laid with pitched stone and is thus protected from erosion. The quarries at Deep Clough represent a most robust monument and are unlikely to be adversely affected by visitor erosion. The main sites to be thus affected are the stone extraction pit to the north of the Peel Monument and the putative cairn around the Pilgrim's Cross commemorative monument. The most frequently encountered damage to the heritage assets is the tipping of waste materials to fill in the quarries. For the most part, however, most of the sites recorded in this survey are not suffering from active erosion or other forms of damage.
- 4.2.2 To mitigate the effects of tipping in the quarries, the landowners should discourage this practice by the Moor's users.
- 4.2.3 The most problematic site is the Pilgrim's Cross. The cross, though now gone, was a wayside cross and thus intended as a route marker. The route which passes by it is of considerable antiquity and could be promoted as an historic route. Unfortunately, there is already a conflict between the use of the routes to the Pilgrim's Cross site and erosion of the putative cairn which may underlie it. Any possible cairn has already been severely damaged by the Cross being a meeting place for a number of public rights of way as well as the Pilgrim's route. In the first instance a geophysical and surface topographical survey should be undertaken to attempt to establish the credibility of the site as a cairn and to establish its precise limits. If this can be done then decisions about further mitigative and interpretative strategies can be made.
- 4.2.4 The historical significance of Holcombe Moor if presented appropriately to its visitors, would add value to the visitor experience and assist in the conservation of the Moor's landscape through increasing the Public's

awareness and appreciation of its character. The Moor is a wild place, however, and valued as such, hence a plethora of interpretative boards spread across its landscape would not be beneficial. A well designed interpretative scheme focused on the Peel Monument, the most visited and tamest part of the Moor, may be the answer to this. Locally available information leaflets also would be an appropriate response to providing interpretation of the Moor's historic landscape.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ABBREVIATIONS

BA	Bury Archives
GMAU	Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit
LRO	Lancashire Record Office
LUAU	Lancaster University Archaeological Unit
MA	Manchester Archives
UMAU	University of Manchester Archaeological Unit
UMGA	University of Manchester Geological Unit

PRIMARY SOURCES

Bury Archives

I62	Details of ancient monuments in the Borough of Bury
I39.21	Rights of way in the Borough of Bury
I41.9	Holcombe Moor Military Training Area
RHCMA 0105	Ramsbottom Heritage Centre main archive, Survey of Tottington Lower End, 1794 (same as LRO DDX/118/139/29)
RHCMA 294	Ramsbottom Heritage Centre main archive, extract from the <i>Pennine Magazine</i> , 1987

Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit

Cities revealed aerial photographic series

Lancashire Record Office

DDX/118/130/1	Commission of inquiry into rents from commons of Tottington, c 1548
DDX/118/130/2	Chancery proceedings re quarrying and the rights of the customary tenants of the Honour of Clitheroe, 1753
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APPENDIX 1

PROJECT BRIEF

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF HOLCOMBE MOOR

A scheme is being put together to develop the use of Peel Tower on Holcombe Moor (near Ramsbottom) as a base to explore the wider moorland. Peel Tower is a grade 2 listed structure built in 1852 in memory of Sir Robert Peel. Consultant architects have been appointed to complete a condition survey of Peel Tower and prepare proposals for the provision of new facilities. Restoration of the monument will include new visitor facilities and a base for the National Trust who will manage the buildings and the surrounding moorland. The overall project will seek to improve the access up to and across the moors, and this will be supported by historic trails and information on the area's archaeology.

The study area covers a large expanse of moorland bounded to the west and south by Moorbottom Road and to the west by Cross Lane and Moor Road (see attached map). The study area lies across Bury MBC and Rossendale Borough Council, with much of the land being owned by the National Trust. Just to the west is an MoD firing range which was the subject of an archaeological survey by LUAU in 1995. Much of the area is covered by peat and there is considerable prehistoric and palaeoenvironmental potential. Along the flanks of the moor on the west side are a number of ruined farm sites and associated field systems of 17th to 19th century origin.

An archaeological desk based study, supported by field validation, is required to inform the Conservation Plan which is currently being prepared. The study should:

- identify and describe individual archaeological sites
- assess the significance of sites using PPG16 Annexe 4 criteria
- provide an overview of the development of the historic landscape and placing the study area in its wider setting, particularly in the context of human activity in the Upper Trwelly Valley, especial attention should be given to the area's prehistoric setting, the medieval Forest of Rossendale and its clearance, and the importance of the Pilgrim route and site of the Pilgrim's Cross
- identify sites which are under threat from erosion and neglect and which might be affected by improvement works to paths, access roads, etc.
- identify sites with good archaeological potential that might benefit from future research/investigation
- suggest possible historic/archaeological trails using existing footpaths

The archaeological contractor will be expected to submit a project design with their costings.

Methodology

The assessment will consist of a desk based study and a site inspection.

1) The desk based study will consult the following resources:

- the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record held by GMAU
- the Lancashire County Sites and Monuments Record held by Lancashire Archaeology Service
- the Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (Lancashire Archaeology Service)
- aerial photographs including the 1:10000 vertical series held by the Geology Unit, University of Manchester, and obliques held by GMAU taken for the Bury SMR enhancement project
- printed and manuscript maps and plans (to include the OS map series and tithe maps)
- published and unpublished documentary sources, in particular it will be necessary to consult the following sources:
 - LUAU 1995 *Holcombe Moor Training Centre, Bury - An Archaeological Assessment* (unpublished report, copy held by GMAU)
 - UMAU/GMAU 1999 *Bury - The Archaeology of a Pennine Valley* (unpublished report)
 - Tallis, JH & McGuire, J 1972 *Central Rossendale: the evolution of an upland vegetation*, 1. *The clearance of woodland*, J Ecol 60, 721-737
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 - Newbiggin, T 1868 *History of the Forest of Rossendale*
 - Barnes, B 1982 *Man and the Changing Landscape*
- As a minimum, research should be undertaken at the following record centres:
 - Bury Archive Service
 - Bury Central Reference Library, includes:
 - R. Cunliffe Shaw 1956 *The Royal Forest of Lancaster* in *The Guardian* (Lib. Ref: LA 333.32 SHA)
 - Harrison ? *An Archaeological Survey of Lancashire* (Lib. Ref: LA913.42 HAR)
 - Rev Dowsett, H 1901 *Notes on Holcombe* (Lib. Ref: G.65 DOW)
 - Lancashire Record Office
 - Manchester Central Reference Library

2) Following the desk based study there will be a field validation exercise to relate the existing landscape to research findings. The field validation should be confined to existing footpaths with the exception of:

- sites deemed to be of especial significance or potential significance
- confirming the location and accuracy of SMR entries

3) Maps will be produced suggesting options for historic/archaeological trails (using existing footpaths and lanes). These should also indicate where it might be appropriate to have information points/boards.

4) A report will be produced presenting the results of the survey. It will include the following sections:

- summary
- introduction to project
- methodology
- archaeological and historic background
- an overview of the development of the historic landscape with historic map sequence
- gazetteer of sites with location map
- assessment of the significance of the remains using PPG16 Annex4 criteria
- identification of sites under threat from erosion or neglect or improvement works supported by photographs, and recommendations for further research/investigation or/and conservation
- description of suggested historic trails supported by maps
- sources
- copy of the brief

Other considerations

- 1) The archaeological curators and the Conservation Officer for Bury will be consulted on the draft report prior to its final submission.
- 2) The archaeological contractor will abide by the Institute of Field Archaeologist Bye-Laws of Approved Practice.
- 3) Contractors shall comply with the requirements of all relevant Health & Safety legislation.
- 4) Copies of the report will be sent to the client (6 copies), the archaeological curators (GMAU and Lancashire Archaeology Service).

Norman Redhead
Assistant County Archaeologist
GMAU
4 February 2001

APPENDIX 2

PROJECT DESIGN

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Circumstances

1.2.1 In February 2001 Egerton Lea Consultancy were asked to provide a tender for an archaeological survey at Holcombe Moor, Bury, Greater Manchester. The request was submitted by the Planning Division of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury and was accompanied by a brief compiled by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU).

1.2.2 The requirement for the survey is to inform the 'Peel Tower and Holcombe Moor Conservation Plan'.

1.2 Site location

1.1.1 The site is situated on Holcombe Moor, centered on NGR **SD 178 775**.

1.1.2 The site is co-owned by the National Trust and Bury Metropolitan Borough Council. Even so about a third of the site lies in the modern county of Lancashire.

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 Brief details of the known archaeology of the area are provided in the GMAU brief, but work undertaken in the 1990s by the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) as well as the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit (UMAU), has revealed glimpses of its potential (LUAU 1995; UMAU 1999). As well as being crossed by a pilgrim route, the area contains potential for preserved prehistoric archaeology buried by peat and for post-medieval exploitation and farming following the areas disafforestation in 1507 (Newman 1998). In addition the area contains quarries and other remains indicative of post-medieval industrial exploitation.

1.4 Egerton Lea Consultancy's relevant experience

1.4.1 The consultancy's two co-principals have many years experience in the archaeology of North West England. Caron Newman has acted as Inspector for Ancient Monuments in North West England and still acts as English Heritage's Field Monument Warden in the area. Originally from Heywood she is very familiar with the archaeology of the vicinity. She has undertaken numerous desk-based assessments in the North West and has worked on a number of Pennine sites, including a desk-based survey of Leck Fell, near Kirkby Lonsdale for Lancashire County Council and the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments.

1.4.2 Richard Newman was until November 2000 the Director of the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), where he had overall managerial responsibility for a number of upland surveys including for the Bowland and Nidderdale AONBs and for the Ministry of Defence centre on Holcombe Moor. He also undertook the documentary research for the Forest of Bowland survey. He is the editor of the *Archaeology of Lancashire* and wrote up the results of the Holcombe Moor study for an article on cultural landscapes (Newman 1998). Previously when working for the Glamorgan-Gwent

Archaeological Trust he co-wrote *Upland Archaeology: Toward a Co-operative Approach*.

- 1.4.3 The Egerton Lea Consultancy has been involved with a number of Conservation Plans, having prepared proposals for sites in England and Wales. These have ranged from tramroads in Wales to castles in Cumbria. Caron Newman in particular has experience in this area through her work with English Heritage.
- 1.4.4 The Egerton Lea Consultancy has carried out site interpretation schemes at Egremont Castle, Cumbria, along the Lancaster Canal and has been involved in offering advice on such schemes at a number of other sites. Whilst at LUAU, Richard was involved in the recommendation of sites for display and interpretation in the Greater Manchester area as part of Environment Agency surveys of the archaeological potential of the Manchester river systems.
- 1.4.5 The Egerton Lea Consultancy conducts all its work in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Bye-laws of Approved Practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Purpose

- 2.1.1 The purpose of the investigation will be to identify and provide an appraisal of the likely nature and significance of any archaeological remains and deposits identifiable through the documentary record or by visual inspection, within the defined study area. The investigation will also seek to inform the proposed Conservation Plan by offering suggestions for conservation management and heritage interpretation where relevant.

2.2 Limitations

- 2.2.1 A primarily desk-based archaeological survey cannot guarantee that the full nature of a site's archaeological potential will have been appraised. Prehistoric sites, in particular, unless already known, are unlikely to be recognisable through the documentary record. Many sites in previously ploughed but now pastoral landscapes, may not leave any visible trace at ground level or on aerial photographs. On Holcombe Moor it is known that peat deposits may mask prehistoric sites.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Desk-based study

- 3.1.1 A desk-based study of the area will be undertaken which will pull together all available information relating to the archaeology of Holcombe Moor. It will be important for any previous studies available, including that for the Peel Tower, to be reviewed before more in-depth research is commenced.
- 3.1.2 The study area lies partly within the Metropolitan Borough of Bury and partly within the County of Lancashire so the Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs)

for both authorities will need to be consulted. Consequently all relevant data held by the Greater Manchester and Lancashire SMRs will be appraised.

- 3.1.3 Published cartographic and documentary sources, along with relevant manuscript sources will be consulted at the Lancashire Record Office, the Bury Archive Service, Bury Central reference Library, the Lancashire Local Studies Library, the Lancaster University Library, Manchester Central Reference Library and Rawtenstall District Library. The latter in particular holds documentary records on the Forest of Rossendale not held by other repositories.
- 3.1.4 An optional costing is provided for a visit to the Public Record Office in Kew. As Holcombe Moor was formerly part of the Forests of Lancashire, documentation relating to it may be contained in the Duchy of Lancaster collections. Unfortunately these are not digitally catalogued or even provided with a modern typed catalogue, so it is impossible to check the usefulness of the collection without visiting. It is entirely possible that little of any relevance would be obtained by such a visit.
- 3.1.5 Where relevant reference will be made to museum collections and archives and a check will be made of the collections of the Lancashire and Manchester museums.
- 3.1.6 Aerial photographs held by Lancashire County Council will be reviewed, along with collections held by the Geology Unit, University of Manchester and by GMAU. A full listing of aerial photographs held for the site will be requested from the National Monuments Record (NMR). In order to receive the information during the duration of the project a priority search will be requested and the NMR fee for this is itemised as a separate item under the project costs.
- 3.1.7 Local historical societies, or similar groups, in the Bury/Rawtenstall vicinity will be contacted to discover if they hold any information on the study area.

3.2 Field validation

- 3.2.1 The purpose of the site inspection will be to validate the results of the desk-based research. To this end site inspection will be limited to existing footpaths, except to visit sites deemed to be of especial significance and to check the accuracy of the SMR entries.
- 3.2.2 As much of the study area consists of open moorland the most appropriate mechanism for gaining accurate site locations is the use of GPS. Until recently, in order to gain an adequate accuracy of better than +/- 70m, it was necessary to use a differential GPS system, but because the US has released more satellites for use hand held GPS has become much more accurate. Accuracy of typically +/- 5m is achievable in non-wooded environments, which is well within the tolerance required to validate SMR sites to eight figure Ordnance Survey grid references. Small hand held GPS machines are used by English Heritage to accurately locate sites for its Monuments Protection Programme and they have proved accurate and reliable.

- 3.2.3 The emphasis of the recording will be on the written record. This will be compiled on *pro-forma* sheets designed for ease of input into an Access database. The textual description will not normally exceed 50 words.
- 3.2.4 Any site identified will be located on a plan at either 1:10,000 or 1:2,500 scale as appropriate (though the reproduction scale within the report may differ to suit format).
- 3.2.5 All photographs taken will be by digital camera for ease of reproduction and storage.

3.3 Report

- 3.3.1 The report will provide a description and analysis of the archaeological resource. In addition it will place the remains in their historical and social context. Illustrations will include a location plan, copies of available historic plans and where relevant colour photographs showing remains noted on the site.
- 3.3.2 Maps will also be produced showing the footpath network. These will be used as a basis for suggesting options for heritage trails. Consideration will be given to the nature of the terrain, ease of access and parking facilities. It would be useful during this exercise to have sight of any other studies carried out for the site, particularly those relating to the natural environment, in order that any potential conflicts can be recognised and avoided. The location of interpretation boards or other forms of information access will be considered and mapped. All maps will be produced digitally within a CAD environment.
- 3.3.3 The report's format will comply with the section layout defined in section 4 of the brief.
- 3.3.4 The report will include as appendices copies of the brief and this project design. Any variations to the project design will be noted. These should be confirmed in writing and a copy of the correspondence included as an appendix in the report.
- 3.3.5 A draft copy of the report will be submitted to the Conservation Officer for Bury for comment. Any comments and suggestions will be taken into account before the issuing of a final version of the report.
- 3.3.6 The report will be a document for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose defined in the project brief and this project design. It will not be suitable for publication as an academic report without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and design, or for any other specific purpose, can be fulfilled but will require separate negotiation and funding.
- 3.3.7 Egerton Lea as part of the fulfillment of their contract will produce a brief summary report of the project for inclusion in *Archaeology North West*, given the permission of the client.

- 3.3.8 Six bound copies of the report will be submitted to the client. Further copies will be forwarded on the client's behalf to LCAS and GMAU.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 4.1 Egerton Lea maintain both Health and Safety and Environmental Protection policies and is fully compliant with all legal and professional requirements.
- 4.2 Egerton Lea provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1999 rev.). A written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.

5. ATTENDANCES

- 5.1 The client is requested to arrange all site access.

6. ARCHIVE

- 6.1 The results of the investigation will be compiled in a report which together with any sketches and photographs generated will form the basis for an archive, which with the permission of the client, would deposited with the Bury Archives Service. Work of this nature will not result in the acquisition of artefacts so there will be no requirement to deposit material with an approved museum. The deposition of notes compiled from existing documentary sources is poor practice and should be discouraged, thus no documentary material other than the report will be deposited.

7. PROJECT MONITORING

- 7.1 Any proposed variations to the project design will be agreed with the client in advance and may be the subject of a cost variation.
- 7.2 Provision will be made for the adequate notification of GMAU and LCAS in advance of project commencement and for inspections by the Conservation Officer for Bury or their representatives during the work programme.

8. WORK TIMETABLE

- 8.1 Egerton Lea would commence the project within one week of receipt of written notification from the client. It is estimated that the documentary research will take a maximum of ten days. The validation survey will at most take two days. A report would be produced within one week of the completion of the validation survey.

9. STAFFING

- 9.1 The project will be undertaken by one of the consultancies two principals, either Caron Newman BA, MSc, MIFA or Dr Richard Newman BA, FSA, MIFA. Caron has previously acted as Inspector for Ancient Monuments for the North West of England and has compiled numerous desk-based studies throughout England and Wales. Richard was formerly the Director of the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit and is the editor of *The Archaeology of Lancashire*. He is a former committee member of the Medieval Settlement Research Group and the Post-Medieval Archaeology Society. Full details of their expertise are contained in the consultancy's details forwarded with this tender.

10. INSURANCE

- 10.1 Egerton Lea has both professional indemnity (£250,000) and public liability insurance (£2,000,000). Details will be sent if required.

11. CONTRACT

- 11.1 Egerton Lea would enter into a written agreement with the client. That agreement and this Project Design will form a contract binding on both parties. Egerton Lea has its own contracts which conform to the IFA model for contracts governing archaeological work and is happy to use these if the client wishes.

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APPENDIX 3

GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number Hol 01
Site name Well southern end of Moor
PRN -
NGR SD 7778 1604
Site type Well
Period Pre-1850
Source OS 1st edn

Description

Well marked on OS map of 1850.

Assessment

A site of limited archaeological significance only. Not validated in field inspection.

Site number Hol 02
Site name ridge and furrow southern end of Moor
PRN -
NGR SD 7760 1605 (centred)
Site type ridge and furrow
Period Post medieval
Source Air photograph

Description

Straight and narrow rig, probably formed by steam ploughing on southern slope of Moor.

Assessment

A site of limited archaeological significance only. Not observed during field inspection because of heavy vegetation growth.

Site number Hol 03
Site name Top of Moor
PRN GMSMR 10108.1.0
NGR SD 7764 1618
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source LRO DRM 1/98

Description

Post-medieval farmstead, probably post-dating 1794. The farm house is heavily restored and its is difficult to identify or date original fabric.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.04
Site name Well for Top of Moor farm
PRN -
NGR SD 7766 1619
Site type Well
Period Pre-1850
Source OS 1850

Description

Well marked on OS map of 1850.

Assessment

A site of limited archaeological significance only. Not validated in field inspection.

Site number Hol.05
Site name Quarry southern end of Moor
PRN -
NGR -
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850; OS 1912

Description

Large sandstone quarry in use in 1850, seemingly inactive before 1912.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.06
Site name Manor House
PRN GSMR 9460.1.0
NGR SD 7802 1642
Site type House
Period pre-1850
Source OS 1850

Description

Early to mid-19th century middle class detached house. The name has no historical veracity.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance. Listed grade II.

Site number Hol.07
Site name Plant House
PRN -
NGR SD 7805 1650
Site type House
Period Post medieval
Source OS 1850

Description

Early to mid-19th century middle class detached house. On site of farmstead known as Plant's Tenement in 1794.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.08
Site name Higher House
PRN -
NGR SD 7818 1669
Site type House
Period Post medieval
Source GSMR

Description

Early-18th century house.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance. Listed grade II.

Site number Hol.09
Site name Sandstone quarry on south-east flank of Moor
PRN -
NGR SD 7794 1652 (centred))
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850

Description

Large sandstone quarry in use in 1850 and still active in 1930.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.10
Site name Well within enclosed lands, eastern flank of Moor
PRN -
NGR SD 7816 1685
Site type Well
Period Pre-1850
Source OS 1850
Description
 Well marked on OS map of 1850.
Assessment
 A site of limited archaeological significance only. Not validated in field inspection.

Site number Hol.11
Site name Well within enclosed lands, next to Moor Road
PRN -
NGR SD
Site type Well
Period Pre-1850
Source OS 1850
Description
 Well marked on OS map of 1850.
Assessment
 A site of limited archaeological significance only. Not validated in field inspection.

Site number Hol.12
Site name Circular depression near Deep Clough
PRN -
NGR SD 7815 1707
Site type Earthwork, possible pond
Period Unknown
Source Air photograph; field inspection
Description
 Circular depression with some evidence of enclosing bank and possible ditch. Approximately 25m in diameter. Small mound contained within it on east side. Possibly a pond and perhaps associated with Whirlwind Hall.
Assessment
 This site cannot be assessed without more information.

Site number Hol.13
Site name Whirlwind Hall
PRN -
NGR Unknown
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source BA RHCMA 0105 or LRO DDX/118/139/29; Dowsett 1902, 64
Description
 Farmstead near Deep Clough in existence by 1779 and demolished by 1838.
Assessment
 This site cannot be assessed as its site location is not known.

Site number Hol.14
Site name Booth's Close
PRN GSMR 10067.1.0
NGR SD 7777 1717
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source OS 1850; Dowsett 1901, 86

Description

Farmstead in existence by 1850. In 1838 the enclosures are shown to exist and may have originated in the medieval period, but no farm noted. The farm may have come into existence as stables by 1844. Present buildings could not be closely inspected but could date to the mid-late 19th century.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.15
Site name Deep Clough quarry
PRN -
NGR SD 7788 1697 (centred))
Site type Quarry
Period Post-1850, pre-1894
Source OS 1850; OS 1894

Description

Moderate sized and well preserved sandstone quarry of later 19th century date. Good examples of working faces.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.16
Site name Quarry west of Booth's Close (Harcles Hill Farm)
PRN -
NGR SD 7777 1706
Site type Quarry
Period Pre-1912
Source OS 1912

Description

Small quarry of early 20th century origin.

Assessment

Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol 17
Site name Platform south of Booth's Close (Harcles Hill Farm)
PRN -
NGR SD 7783 1708
Site type earthwork, possible further building
Period Unknown
Source Air photograph

Description

Small rectangular platform in south-east corner of small paddock south of Booth's Close farm. Possibly remains of an agricultural building.

Assessment

The site could not be validated in the field because of access restrictions so it cannot be assessed.

Site number Hol.18
Site name The Troughs
PRN GMSMR 163.1.0
NGR SD 7758 1767
Site type Natural feature
Period -
Source Dowsett 1901, 44-5

Description

Four long irregular mounds of varying height, previously considered to have been some form of fortification but now considered to be of natural origin.

Assessment

Of no archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.19
Site name Coal pit west of Moor Road
PRN LSMR 8760
NGR SD 7797 1783
Site type Coal pit
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850

Description

Surface characteristics of a bell pit. Circular mound of spoil around a partially backfilled shaft

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.20
Site name Quarry south of White Hill Slack
PRN LSMR 8731
NGR SD 7795 1805
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850

Description

Sandstone quarry marked on OS 1850 map. Out of use by the end of the 19th century. Larger than appears on maps as it extends to the north of White Hill Slack. Largely grassed over.

Assessment

Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol.21
Site name Quarry south of Chatterton Close
PRN -
NGR SD 7788 1833
Site type Quarry
Period Post-1850
Source OS 1895; OS 1912

Description

Small sandstone quarry, probably for supplying Chatterton Close farm. Partially filled. Not shown in 1850, in existence and possibly in use in 1895 but marked as an old quarry in 1912.

Assessment

Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol.22
Site name Breathing Ground
PRN -
NGR SD 7733 1789 (centred)
Site type Gallops. (No suitable description in RCHME Thesaurus)
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850; Dowsett 1901, 86

Description

Horse exercising track on top of White Hill. The route can still be discerned on the ground.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number

Hol.23

Site name

Pilgrims or Whowell Cross

PRN

LSMR 1073

NGR

SD 7717 1819

Site type

Site of wayside cross on top of a possible cairn

Period

Medieval/Prehistoric?

Source

LUAU 1995

Description

Former site of wayside cross, marking the pilgrim route to Whalley. Base only survived by 1901 when it was destroyed. Replaced by existing memorial in 1902. Original cross and present memorial may be on top of a Bronze Age cairn. Any cairn has been greatly eroded and disturbed.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance

Site number

Hol.24

Site name

Rifle range butts to the west of Chatterton Close

PRN

-

NGR

SD 7730 1845

Site type

Rifle butts

Period

Post-1850

Source

OS 1895, 1912

Description

Rectangular walled sunken structure, embanked to the south and with steps at its eastern end. Marked as targets on OS map of 1912.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number

Hol.25a

Site name

Chatterton Close farm: buildings

PRN

-

NGR

SD 7787 1846

Site type

Farmstead

Period

Post-medieval

Source

LRO DRM 1/97

Description

Farmstead in existence by at least 1842. Current buildings include a house of likely late 18th-early 19th century date and a large attached barn.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number

Hol.25b

Site name

Chatterton Close farm: garden

PRN

-

NGR

SD 7785 1849

Site type

Formal garden

Period

Post-medieval

Source

LRO DRM 1/97

Description

Formal garden abutting the north side of Chatterton Close farmstead. Shown on the 1842 tithe map but not shown on 1850 OS map. No evidence of garden appears to survive in what is now a pasture field.

Assessment

Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol 26
Site name Chatterton Close sheepfold
PRN -
NGR SD 7741 1861
Site type Sheepfold
Period Post-medieval
Source OS 1850

Description

Sheepfold shown on 1850 OS map, also depicted, but not described, on 1842 tithe map. Site could not be validated in the field as it is contained within an enclosed pasture which had animals in at the time of the survey.

Assessment

No assessment is possible as the site was not visited. Viewed from a distance there is little evidence of any structural survival.

Site number Hol.27
Site name Quarry north of Chatterton Close
PRN LSMR 8728
NGR SD 7775 1886
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850, OS 1912

Description

Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map, still apparently in use in 1912. Moderately large quarry, but with few exposed faces or other significant features.

Assessment

Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.28
Site name Quarry south-west of Middle Doe
PRN LSMR 8722
NGR SD 7718 1921
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850

Description

Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map but not depicted on later maps. Few visible remains.

Assessment

Site of only limited archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.29
Site name Quarry south-west of Alden
PRN LSMR 8721
NGR SD 7696 1936
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850

Description

Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map but not depicted on later maps. Few visible remains.

Assessment

Site of only limited archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.30
Site name Circular earthwork on east flank of Bull Hill
PRN -
NGR SD 7726 1879
Site type Pinfold or possible hut circle
Period Pre-1842
Source Field inspection, LRO DRM 1/97

Description

Circular bank enclosing an area approximately 5m in diameter. The bank is about 0.5m in height with a 1.5m spread. The enclosure has what seems to be an entrance on the eastern side about 3m wide, although part of the gap forming the entrance appears likely to be denuded bank. Possibly a small pinfold or less likely to be a hut circle of prehistoric date.

Assessment

The site requires further study but will be of at least local significance.

Site number Hol.31
Site name Quarry within enclosures of Chatterton Close
PRN -
NGR SD 7741 1886
Site type Quarry
Period Post-medieval
Source Air photographs, field inspection

Description

Former small quarry, largely filled in and grassed over. Probably for building dry-stone walls of Chatterton Close.

Assessment

Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol.32
Site name Quarry to the west of Chatterton Close
PRN -
NGR SD 7737 1882
Site type Quarry
Period Post-medieval
Source Air photographs, field inspection

Former small quarry, largely filled in and grassed over. Probably for building dry-stone walls of Chatterton Close.

Assessment

Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol.33
Site name Bull Hill
PRN LSMR 1074
NGR SD 7678 1873
Site type Flint scatter
Period Mesolithic, Neolithic/Bronze Age
Source TLCAS 4 1887

Description

Flint tools and debitage exposed by peat erosion. Material found in 1877, 1886 and in the 1950s.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.34
Site name Quarry east of Long Rake
PRN -
NGR SD 7706 1743
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850
Description
Sandstone quarry. Small and with few features of interest.
Assessment
Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol.35
Site name Old Gray Wall
PRN GSMR 10013
NGR SD 7709 1769 (at point where wall is crossed by Long Rake footpath)
Site type Boundary wall
Period Pre-1850
Source OS 1850; LUAU 1995, 40; field inspection
Description
Foundation remains of wall. The foundations indicate that the wall is not as straight as depicted on 1850 OS map. Also clear evidence that the wall ran north from SD 7709 1769 following the course of the Long Rake footpath. Indications that the wall follows this route as far as the Pilgrim's Cross. In places footpath may run along wall foundations. Wall no longer a functioning boundary by 1850 and probably already by that date only surviving as foundations.
Assessment
Site of local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.36
Site name Quarry east of Green Rake
PRN -
NGR SD 7710 1706
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1850
Description
Sandstone quarry. Small and with few features of interest.
Assessment
Site of limited archaeological significance only.

Site number Hol.37
Site name Nook Farm
PRN GSMR 10017.1.0
NGR SD 7704 1701
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source BA RHCMA 0105; LRO DDX 118/130/6
Description
Farmstead known to exist in 1622. Abandoned as a consequence of the extension of military training. Still roofed in 1946 now ruinous to lowermost courses. Present state as described in GSMR. Eastern flanking wall forms the boundary of the study area.
Assessment
Site of regional archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.38
Site name Hamlet's Tenement
PRN GSMR 10015.1.1
NGR SD 7706 1689
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source BA RHCMA 0105; OS 1850

Description

Site in existence by 1794. Abandoned as a consequence of the extension of military training. Present state as described in GSMR. On the boundary of the study area.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.39
Site name Hamlet's Cottages
PRN GSMR 10015.2.0
NGR SD 7707 1675
Site type Farm worker's cottages
Period Post-medieval
Source LUAU 1995, OS 1850

Description

Site in existence before 1850 but possibly post-dating 1797. Abandoned as a consequence of the extension of military training. Present state as described in GSMR. On the boundary of the study area.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.40
Site name Taylor's Farm
PRN GSMR 10045.1.0
NGR SD 7713 1652
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source BA RHCMA 0105; OS 1850

Description

Site in existence by 1794. Abandoned as a consequence of the extension of military training. Present state as described in GSMR. On the boundary of the study area.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.41
Site name Clarke's Tenement
PRN GSMR 10053.1.0
NGR SD 7723 1622
Site type Farmstead
Period Post medieval
Source BA RHCMA 0105; OS 1850

Description

Site in existence by 1794. Abandoned as a consequence of the extension of military training. Present state as described in GSMR. Site lies within but on the edge of the study area.

Assessment

Site of regional archaeological significance.

Site number Hol.42
Site name Quarry north of Peel Monument
PRN -
NGR SD 7776 1640
Site type Quarry
Period 19th century
Source OS 1894, field inspection

Description

Small but deep extraction pit for sandstone. Its size and location suggest it provided much of the stone for the construction of the Peel Monument.

Assessment

Its probable relationship with the Peel Monument give it a local archaeological significance.

Site number Hol 43
Site name Gritstone block near Moor Road
PRN -
NGR SD 7810 1755
Site type Cross shaft?
Period Medieval/Post medieval
Source Field inspection

Description

Possible cross shaft perhaps derived from the Pilgrim's Cross. Gritstone block approximately 1.5m long and 0.4m wide at base tapering to 0.25m at the top. Circular socket centrally placed at top, 10mm in diameter and 30mm deep, possibly for a metal plug to assist in fixing another segment. No evidence of tenon on base which was damaged. The block may be no more than a gate stoop, however.

Assessment

Significance is unknown as the nature of the stone block has not been positively established.

PLATES



Plate 1: Possible cross shaft (site 43)



Plate 2: Possible cross shaft viewed from base



Plate 3: Coal pit (site 19)



Plate 4: Shooting butt (site 24)



Plate 5: Commemorative monument at the site of the Pilgrim's Cross



Plate 6: Building remains at Clarke's Tenement



Plate 7: Quarry, north of the Peel Monument



Plate 8: Quarry at Deep Clough

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